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Your essential daily news

WEEKEND, MAY 29-31, 2015

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School funding elevates

Centennial High School student Syameena Pillai jumped for joy after learning Thursday that the NDP government would invest more than \$100 million back into the education system. Story, [metroNEWS](#). JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Consent confusion

SURVEY

Albertans uncertain over what is sexual permission



**Anna
Brooks**
Metro | Calgary

Nearly a quarter of Albertans "don't know" whether explicit photos or "sexts" represent sexual consent, according to a recent survey by the Canadian Women's Foundation.

Calgary resident Chantelle, who didn't want her last name published, said what started as an innocent conversation on the popular dating app Tinder quickly turned into one of the worst nights of her life.

After chatting with a guy who "seemed really nice," she said she and her roommate met him and some friends at a bar.

"Once we had a couple drinks, he started grabbing my face and trying to kiss me," she said. "I kept pushing him off, but he wouldn't stop."

Chantelle said she felt uneasy when her roommate invited everyone back to their apartment, but told herself it would be OK — she had made it clear nothing sexual was going to happen.

But apparently, the message wasn't clear to him.

"I barely had my shoes off and he had stripped down butt naked," she said. "He wasn't going to take no for an answer."

Anuradha Dugal with the Canadian Women's Foundation the survey found most people understand consent is necessary, but many don't know what consent means.

"Even if someone had sent a text that was explicit, that's not the same thing as giving consent," she said.

**FOR MORE ON WHAT
CONSTITUTES SEXUAL
CONSENT, see page 9**

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‘They’re offering me a chance’

OUTREACH

Agencies help former addict, homeless man rejoin the world



Jeremy Nolais
Metro | Calgary

Chuck lived in the frigid cold, a 45-minute walk from civilization, and was, as he puts it, getting to the end of his rope.

“I was doing a lot of praying at night, let me tell you,” he said. “It was just too much.”

He had struggled with addiction for years and it had cost him dearly. He was too ashamed to reach out for help, too ashamed to even call his own mother in Ontario at times.

He had to get away.

So Chuck, whom Metro agreed not to identify by his real name, set out to build a camp in a wooded area about a mile west of the 16 Street SW Greyhound station using pallets, cardboard, blankets and cloth to keep the moisture out. On the exterior, he lined branches and tree stumps to keep the area hidden.

The camp

Jody St. Pierre, a community peace officer with the City of Calgary, first took members of the Alpha House Downtown Outreach Addictions Program (DOAP) Encampment Team to Chuck’s camp in mid-January.

Team worker Jocelyn Court recalled the camp as something out of a survival guide, a truly



“Chuck” lived for a full year in a hidden camp in the city’s west end, one that was so skillfully designed, bylaw officers struggled to find it. A collaboration between bylaw officers, Alpha House and the Calgary Homeless Foundation has since helped Chuck get into his own apartment and sign on for a new job. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

skilled creation.

And, as her colleague Teigen Welkert recalled, it was really hidden.

“When Jody took us out to show us this camp, I remember he’s pointing at it to show us where it is and I still didn’t see it,” Welkert said.

The pair and others work to aid so-called “rough sleepers” in the city. It’s believed there are 40 to 50 people living in makeshift camps like Chuck’s, even during Calgary’s coldest months. In the summer, the number rises.

A past encounter

Chuck had lived in his west-end camp for about a year, but he’d been homeless off and on for nearly a decade.

St. Pierre first met him two years prior, when he was sleeping on an electrical conduit between the upper and lower decks of the Centre Street Bridge.

The city’s roads department had first been alerted to squatter debris on the span and, when they investigated, they found Chuck sleeping.

They called St. Pierre in to assist.

“He was basically 20 feet above traffic on a very thin piece of wood and metal,” St. Pierre said. “One roll one way or another and you’re falling and hurting yourself.”

He and Chuck had a “heart-to-heart.”

“I basically told him, ‘If you haven’t hit rock bottom you’re pretty close, because you’re living above a bridge deck,’” St. Pierre said.

After Chuck agreed to get

some help, St. Pierre phoned the DOAP encampment team and enrolled him in a detox program.

“He graduated two weeks later,” St. Pierre said.

Chuck was then put into a housing program and got a job in Fort McMurray, but his upward trajectory didn’t last.

Early this year, reports started trickling in to bylaw officers of a camp in the Shaganappi area.

St. Pierre said he and his partner went to investigate and were just about to leave when he spotted

ted the camp.

He shouted out to anybody inside and Chuck presented himself. He recognized St. Pierre right away.

“He said, ‘Well, I fell back into the addiction cycle again and I got laid off,’” St. Pierre said. “I said, ‘Well, we can make another phone call for you,’ and he said, ‘Yeah, that would be great because this really sucks, camping outside.’”

The solution

Chuck said his second meeting with St. Pierre came in the nick of time.

“I was ready to make the changes that I wasn’t so ready to make last time,” he said.

He was enrolled in the Calgary Homeless Foundation’s Housing First program and has since got the keys to his own one-bedroom apartment. Its got locks on the doors, heat, food in the fridge, and much more.

“It’s awesome,” Chuck said.

“I absolutely love it.”

Asked about the Chuck saga that spanned years, St. Pierre said it reinforces that collaboration between agencies is pivotal in aiding those without a roof over their heads.

“I don’t have the keys to a house, but we know people that do and that’s what’s key,” he said.

Chuck has got a new job and is continuing to seek treatment. He choked back tears when asked about those who helped him rejoin the world.

“They’re offering me a chance to get my life back,” he said. “That’s huge, that’s what it’s about.”

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Friends defend slaying victim

WILLOW PARK

Public urged not to judge man by his criminal record



Morgan Modjeski
Metro|Calgary

He's not the mistakes he made in the past.

That's the message friends of Taylor John Zononi want to get out to the public after the 23-year-old was gunned down in broad daylight in Willow Park Wednesday morning.

Ashley Smith, who knew Zononi, said she was devastated by the loss, adding it's nothing short of a tragedy.

"At the end of the day, we were all someone's child and friend and a human," she said. "No matter what bad choices we make in life, everyone has a piece in

them that's amazing and Taylor had amazing pieces in him.

"This type of death, no matter what activity he was involved in, is horrific, and he did not deserve it and his mom and dad did not deserve it and his siblings don't deserve it."

Witnesses of the homicide described a bloody scene and a body with substantial injuries to the head.

Police, who responded to a call of shots fired in 13500 block of Bonaventure Drive SE around 10:45 a.m. Wednesday, are still seeking a suspect.

Court records indicate Zononi was facing 33 charges in connection to a 2014 bust in which \$250,000 worth of drugs and several weapons were seized, but Staff Sgt. Doug Andrus with the CPS homicide unit said there's nothing to indicate the death is gang- or drug-related.

"I can't comment on if he is known or not known to police, but I can tell you that we will be looking into his background as part of our investigation,"



Losing him has broken my heart.

Stephanie Rich

he said.

Stephanie Rich, who said she was Zononi's best friend, told Metro the young man she knew was so much more than his criminal record.

"He was an amazing person," she said. "He was more genuine than most people. I loved him so very much."

"He was a loyal, loving, well-mannered friend. He may have made stupid choices but the Taylor I knew was someone incredible."

Court records indicate Zononi pleaded guilty to a robbery charge in 2011 and he would have been due back in court on June 24 to answer to the drug charges.

He would have turned 24 on Friday.



Police have identified the city's 10th homicide victim of 2015 as 23-year-old Taylor John Zononi. Friends say despite a 2011 robbery conviction and a host of drugs and weapon charges, there was more to Zononi than his criminal past. FACEBOOK

CRIME

Tot seized during suspected drug deal

Two women from Lethbridge are facing a host of charges under Alberta's Drug-Endangered Children's Act after bringing a three-year-old girl to an alleged drug deal.

According to a release from the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT), the arrests were made on Monday as part of an operation targeting street-level fentanyl sales in Southern Alberta.

An ALERT team made up of the Lethbridge Regional Police Service and RCMP officers witnessed a suspect complete what was believed to be a roadside fentanyl deal with the toddler in the backseat.

At the time, police believed the safety of the child was in jeopardy and made the decision to protect the welfare of the child.

Officers seized 27 fentanyl pills and a small amount of crack cocaine.

The two women, aged 25 and 26, both face drug and child-endangerment charges. METRO

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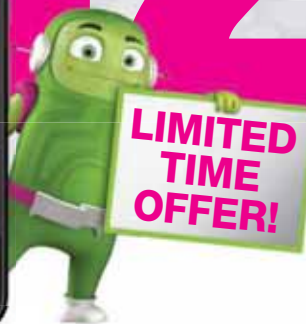
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Joe Ceci is sworn in as the Alberta Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board in Edmonton on Sunday, May 24, 2015. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nenshi in favour of new tax idea

PUBLIC POLICY

Shift would give Albertans guaranteed annual income



Robson Fletcher
Metro | Calgary

Anti-poverty advocates took notice this week when Mayor Nenshi floated the idea of a so-called “negative income tax” now that the NDP is in power and Joe Ceci — a former poverty activist, himself — is Alberta’s finance minister.

“I am really, really interested if he will bring that to bear in terms of some really significant changes to the taxation system that would really help us manage poverty in a brand new way,” Nenshi told reporters. “And that really needs the Treasury Board and Finance and Human Services to work together.”

As to what kinds of changes he figured Ceci might float, Nenshi said: “A negative income tax, maybe.”

The idea of a negative income tax involves, effectively, rolling the many disparate social programs that exist today into a single form of financial support based on the tax system.

The basic premise is that people who earn below a certain threshold would receive supplemental pay from the government, instead of paying taxes to the government.

Vibrant Communities Calgary,

a local anti-poverty agency, has been advocating for essentially the same idea under a different name: guaranteed annual income.

“Conceptually, it’s a fantastic idea,” said VCC executive Franco Savoia. “Generally speaking, though, both nationally and provincially, the idea has just never really gained much traction.”

The idea was actually implemented as a pilot project in the small town of Dauphin, Man., in the 1970s but was later abandoned. It’s now being considered as a referendum question in Switzerland.

A negative income tax is “something to seriously look at,” said Mike Brown, a public-policy advisor with Momentum, a non-profit organization that provides financial education to Calgarians living in poverty.

Brown said it’s not a topic that his group has studied in-depth but it’s effectively a broader application of a policy Momentum is currently lobbying for: an “Alberta Child Benefit” that would pay parents in households earning less than \$41,000 annually a total of \$1,300 per year per child.

“We’ve only looked at it for families,” Brown added. “But the logic is sound for families, so I think we can extrapolate it for all Albertans and make sure that no one has to live in poverty in Alberta.”

Ceci, who worked as a public policy manager with Momentum before being elected as the NDP MLA for Calgary-Fort, did not reply to a request for comment on this topic through his press secretary.

YOUNG OFFENDERS

Youth centre will return to full service



Morgan Modjeski
Metro | Calgary

Premier Rachel Notley announced Thursday that her NDP government is reversing the planned closure of the Calgary Young Offender Centre (CYOC) and will return it to “full service” in short order.

In late March, the Conservative government said it

would be closing the facility due to the fact it was underutilized — clients would have been shipped north to Edmonton.

The NDP did suspend that closure, however, after earning an election victory May 5.

“In review, it was simply wrong to close this facility and so we won’t do it,” Notley said.

“Our goal is to help young offenders learn from the

trouble that they’ve got themselves into. Separating them from their families works directly against this goal.”

One mother, whose daughter is in the CYOC, said the closure would have negatively impacted her daughter’s rehabilitation. She feels Notley made the right move on the reversal.

“It’s a huge deal for them,” she said of the facility’s clients. “That their families

will be able to visit them and they’ll still have that wonderful staff at CYOC to look after them. It’s a really good thing.”

Metro agreed not to name the mother to protect her child’s identity.

Lawrence Deck, a psychologist at the CYOC, said the reversal was welcome news.

“I think that’s good for young people and their families,” he said.



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School boards see green with \$103M cash influx

BUDGET

Details of how funding will be divvied up still to come



Jeremy Nolaïs
Metro | Calgary

Students and parents rejoiced Thursday as Alberta's days-old NDP government green-lighted a nine-figure investment in the province's cash-strapped education system.

The \$103-million announcement was the first major shift away from the 44-year-old Tory dynasty and was needed urgently as school boards around the province attempt to firm up their finances for the looming 2015-16 school year.

"This is money that they (school boards) require going forward," Premier Rachel Notley said Thursday.

"The cuts under the (former Premier Jim) Prentice plan wouldn't have come into effect until September and now those cuts will not come into effect in September."

The NDP said the funds will be used to aid an estimated 12,000 additional students flooding into the province this fall and also restore Tory-era cuts to grants for both First Nations students and English language learners. The 1.4 per cent cut to transportation funding is also a thing of the past.

The swell of cash was enough to stun Centennial High School Grade 11 student Syameena Pillai.

After the Tory budget dropped, she and others at the

school had gone public with their concerns about lacking tutorial time, teacher feedback and other studying necessities.

"I didn't actually think it was going to happen, so I'm a little speechless," she said of the announcement. "It just seemed a little implausible to me that there could be a government that actually cares about students."

The Calgary Board of Education, which runs Centennial and more than 200 other schools, had been planning to dip heavily into its operating reserve to counter a \$30-million shortfall after the Tory fiscal plan was released.

The financial woes also prompted the board's representatives, along with their peers elsewhere, to go public with what was described as an unprecedented showing of opposition to the budget.

Board trustee chairwoman Joy Bowen-Eyre, who was also celebrating her daughter's high school graduation Thursday, said the NDP announcement left her "very emotional."

"We're absolutely thrilled today with this announcement, because it includes dollars for our new students as well as allows us to support stability in our system," she said. "We know people value public education — Calgarians value public education, Albertans value public education."

Helen Cleese, president of the Alberta School Boards Association, said the extra money allow would allow organizations to breathe a "collective sigh." She said the details of how the funding would be utilized were discussions for the days to come.

"Right now, it's a time for



Centennial High School student Syameena Pillai hopes to see more instructors and assistants in her school this fall. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO



This is to meet an immediate need that was on my desk when I became minister. This previous government chose to not fund the incoming needs of 12,000 students.

David Eggen, Alberta education minister

celebration," Cleese said.

Opposition parties didn't take issue with the extra education funds, but opposition Wildrose critic Mark Smith did question the lack of details

about where the money would come from — Notley said the financials would be spelled out in an interim supply bill motion that's due to go before the legislature.

As well, interim Progressive Conservative Leader Ric McIver accused the NDP of giving only "vague answers" about their plans for funding private and independent schools.

The NDP has spoken out against putting public dollars toward private schools in the past but Notley said Thursday's announcement would assist all education bodies. She would only say the funding model for private schools was on her "radar" but didn't delve into specific changes that may come.

EDUCATION

Reducing fees a priority: Minister

Alberta's education minister says he'll urge school boards in the coming days to be "cognizant" of fees charged to parents and encouraged them to reduce such costs on their own, if possible.

But David Eggen also indicated the NDP remains committed to a campaign pledge to cut costs for busing and noon-hour supervision in half. He couldn't say, however, if parents would catch a break on fees as early as this fall.

"The problem is that it's just been so unregulated out there over these past number of years," he said of boards' fee schemes.

"Some school boards bent over backwards to protect parents and students from excessive school fees and others really brought the school fees up to quite a high level. We're going to have to deal with it in a staged sort of way."

The Calgary Board of Education has endeavoured to keep transportation costs level for 2015-16 at \$330 for the year, but has detailed plans to cut routes and move toward more "congregated" bus stops.

Last year, however, the board did raise the total cost for a student riding a yellow school bus and eating lunch on-site by nearly 18 per cent, or nearly \$100.

Eggen said \$103 million announced for school boards Thursday was intended primarily to aid classrooms, but didn't rule out using some of the dough to cut fees.

He added that he would tell boards: "It's a priority for us to reduce these school fees and it's better if they do it on their own volition."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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ES-T	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-V	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-X	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-Y	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-Z	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-1	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-2	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-3	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-4	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-5	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-6	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-7	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-8	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-9	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-10	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-11	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-12	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-13	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-14	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-15	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-16	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-17	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
ES-18	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%	1.9%	2.9%	3.9%
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DRUG

Educators warned of 'lethal' fentanyl

Calgary police are reaching out to schools to try and raise awareness about the dangers of prescription drugs infiltrating the halls, interrupting class time with staggering side effects, addiction and sometimes death.

Thursday the Calgary Police Service held a panel discussion to engage with community stakeholders and teach school leaders how to detect signs and symptoms of drug use.

Police said they can deal with the supply of drugs in high schools. It's the demand they want to cut down on.

Every month the drug unit fields 300 to 400 tips, prioritizing those from educators, parents and guidance counselors to prevent and reduce the amount of drugs in schools.

"It's a really challenging issue, not only for police but educators and parents," said Staff Sgt. Martin Schiavetta of

the Calgary Police Drug Unit. "The high school population, a lot of them feel invincible, that an overdose is 'never going to happen to me.'"

Schiavetta said he has seen drugs in all levels of Calgary's education system — ranging from elementary to high school and beyond. He added when it comes to fentanyl, a dose the size of two salt granules can prove deadly.

"We're extremely concerned

about (fentanyl) because it has traumatic effects, lethal effects," Schiavetta said. "It's certainly prevalent in high schools but it's not the only drug."

Marijuana, cocaine and methamphetamines are some of the drugs seen in schools across Calgary. There has also been a rise in heroin use, but the major concerns are ecstasy and fentanyl.

HELEN PIKE/METRO



Sgt. Kristie Verheul of the Calgary police shows off precious jewels and stones uncovered during a search. HELEN PIKE/METRO

Police allege \$8M fraud, seize jewels

THEFT

Three charged in fake charity scam against elderly victim



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

It's a fraud investigation Calgary police are likening to Pandora's Box.

One victim's case spurred a search revealing millions of dollars along with three cube vans' worth of documents tying the case to international frauds.

"This is a very large and complex investigation," said Sgt. Kristie Verheul of the Calgary Police Service's Economic Crimes Unit. "At the onset of the investigation, we thought the jurisdiction was in Canada but soon found there were ties to the U.S. and other countries."

Police charged three people in connection to crimes against an elderly victim from eastern Canada who, they say, was defrauded of more than \$8 million over the span of 15 years.

Joseph Edison, 66, also known as Joseph Edison Fernando, was charged with fraud over \$5,000, theft over \$5,000, and forgery.

Stefanie Hasase Fernando,

37, was charged with fraud over \$5,000 and theft over \$5,000. A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Anshul Edison Fernando on similar charges.

The main suspect is alleged to have used organization names like the Humanitarian Foundation of Canada, the World Job and Food Bank, and the Calgary Community Outreach Services Society in committing crimes.

Police said all of the charities associated with the suspect were determined to be fake and are not registered with the Canada Revenue Agency.

On Wednesday, Calgary police searched two residences and a business in Calgary's southwest and seized property, including forged bank and government documents, fraudulent investment accounts, and \$65,000 worth of gold.

A subsequent search found the boxes contained silver, jewels and various types of currency.

"It's probably one of the largest investigations that we will have seen," Verheul said. "The perpetrators are very smart individuals, connected individuals. Something of this scope would suggest connections across the world ... and not just one scheme."

Anyone who thinks they've been affected or has information that could help the investigation is asked to contact Calgary police or Crime Stoppers.

\$65K

Value of gold seized by police from two homes and a business on Wednesday.

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Alberta hosts the highest percentage of women who admit reasons for submitting to unwanted sexual activity as a result of societal or peer pressures. METRO FILE

Study shows consent less clear in digital age

SEXUALITY

Issues arise from online to in-person interactions

Anna Brooks
Metro | Calgary

When moving relationships from online to offline, it seems Albertans suffer the most from consent confusion, according to a new survey conducted by the Canadian Women's Foundation.

Calgarian Chantelle experienced this first-hand when what she thought was simply a friendly conversation on the popular app Tinder escalated into a man trying to force himself on her once they met in person.

"We weren't even flirtatious

online," she explained.

"I would send smiley faces and exclamation marks, but it was never anything sexual. Just because I'm on Tinder doesn't mean I'm going to have sex with you."

Mirjam Knapik, registered psychologist and counsellor at Mount Royal University, said from what she's seen as a practitioner, the biggest issue with online-to-offline interactions starts with the vagueness of digital communication.

"This speaks to the information that's missing when you're texting and the culture unfolding around that," Knapik said.

"You think, maybe I've given enough signals, or I must have been giving too many signals ...this person assumes 'this' and maybe now I'm obligated to."

The study also revealed that at 67 per cent, Alberta had the highest percentage of women who admitted reasons for sub-



Just because I'm on Tinder doesn't mean I'm going to have sex with you.

Chantelle

mitting to unwanted sexual activity are a result of societal or peer pressures.

In Chantelle's case, she felt she never would have been in that situation if she hadn't felt like she couldn't say no to her roommate, who had invited the persistent male and a friend back to their apartment after they all went for drinks that night.

"I didn't want to make a big deal out of it even though it was a really big deal," she said.

"I said no (to his sexual advances), and that's where I draw the line, but I could see other girls just giving in and saying, 'Fine.'"

As a counsellor, Knapik said she sees so many problems between young people com-

municating in person, and those difficulties can dramatically increase when interacting through a digital platform.

"If people are confused about it face-to-face, then you can imagine how confused they'll be about it via text," she said.

Knapik added that the underlying problem with consent confusion, especially among the 18-to-34 age demographic, is there simply isn't enough discussion about the topic.

"I think in our culture, generally we don't want to talk about these things," Knapik said.

"We don't like to have those non-romantic conversations. If those conversations started, that would be a great first step."







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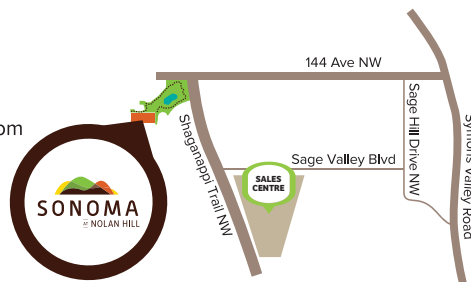
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The 25th Lilac Festival kicked off with a parade down 4th Street last year. METRO FILE

Lilac Fest hosting special dog 'spaw'

PETS

Pooped and overheated pooches can rest, get water



Anna Brooks
Metro | Calgary

An expected crowd of 125,000 people hitting the streets for the Lilac Festival this weekend has some questioning whether or not pet owners should leave their dogs at home.

Festival director Jennifer Rempel said to help mollify worries about dehydrated or overheated dogs on festival grounds, they're partnering with Vets To Go to host a "Happy Hound Lounge and Spaw."

Rempel said the "spaw" acts

as almost a VIP lounge for dogs to drink fresh water, relax on cooling mats and generally have some reprieve from the high-volume crowds.

"It's always been a controversy for dogs or no dogs at the festival," Rempel said.

"It's a place to get some dog festival education or to go if your dog is in duress. They're offering some great services and there's a vet on site in case something does happen."

Jessica Fielding with Vets To Go said that as exhibitors in the past, vets started to notice a lot of hot, tired dogs being steered through hordes of people.

Fielding said the main issue is pet owners simply aren't prepared or haven't properly looked into taking their pet to a festival of that size.

"We noticed that people weren't really prepared for the amount of time they were

going to spend down there," she said, noting the average person spends up to five hours at the Lilac Festival.

"From what we've seen in the last two years, it's not a great atmosphere for some animals," she said.

"The spaw is a place for dogs to get out of the crowds, have a little treat and then continue on."

Fielding added that a pet's temperament, size, and health should all be considered before bringing an animal to Lilac Fest.



There's a vet on site in case something does happen.

Jennifer Rempel,
Lilac Festival director

+ EVENT GOES GREEN WITH BIKE VALET, RECYCLING

On track for another jam-packed Lilac Festival extravaganza, organizer Jennifer Rempel said one of the key focuses of this year's event is environmental stewardship.

Continuing on with the waste-recycling program implemented last year, Rempel said the goal is to achieve a 75 per cent diversion rate this year.

"It's a big project to implement in a 13-block

festival that's free to the public," Rempel said.

"It's been excellent that so many Calgarians have come out to volunteer at our festival."

Rempel said this go-around, the recycling stations lining the streets will feature organics receptacles for paper waste. All stations are manned by volunteers directing garbage disposal, and there's also a central sorting station that will

further sort any improperly disposed waste.

Another festival feature this year is a bike valet for those who have cycled down and may have forgotten a lock.

Rempel said she hopes this will encourage festival-goers to leave their vehicles behind and use alternate forms of transportation to prevent traffic congestion in the area.

ANNA BROOKS/METRO



Edgar Nernberg thinks the fossils he found date to before the Great Flood in the Bible, 4,300 years ago. THE CANADIAN PRESS

60 MILLION YEARS

Ancient fossils fail to convince creationist

Edgar Nernberg sees the irony of believing the Earth is roughly 6,000 years old, while being the one to discover rare fossils of fish that scientists estimate lived 60 million years ago.

Nernberg sits on the board of the Big Valley Creationist Museum southeast of Red Deer, Alta. He helped establish the museum in 2008, but also works as a heavy equipment operator in Calgary.

The 64-year-old was excavating a basement in March when he caught sight of something special in the bucket of his trackhoe: black outlines of five fish in a block of sandstone.

He contacted a paleontologist and assistant professor at the University of Calgary, Darla Zelenitsky, who assessed the full fossils of a primitive bony, type of fish as an extraordinary find.

She has calculated the fish lived shortly after an asteroid killed off the dinosaurs.

Nernberg thinks the fish were most likely to have been alive shortly before the Great Flood in the Bible, about 4,300 years ago.

"We agree to disagree," Nernberg said Thursday. "We're quite amicable and really almost friends."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Big street fest likely not the best place for Fido

IN DEFENCE OF

Mike Morrison
Metro | Calgary

This weekend, thousands, and I mean thousands of people will descend upon Calgary's Mission area for the city's largest street festival.

Last year's Lilac Festival saw more than 125,000 people take in the music, food and yes, patios. That's more than the Calgary Stampede usually sees in any given day.

The only problem? A lot of those people will have dogs with them. Now, if I'm being honest, this is something that I've never understood.

How can you have a dog, presumably love it and then look at a 13-block street festival packed with people, loud noises, children, other dogs and think, "Yup, I should definitely bring my dog down there."

Lilac Festival executive director Jennifer Remple says

that dogs are certainly allowed at the festival, but she wants to make sure that they are festival-ready.

This year's Lilac Festival will feature a partnership with Vets To Go. On 19th Ave, people and pets will be able to find a Pet Spaw (get it?), which will feature a cool place for pets to get out of the heat, off of the asphalt and have some water.

But why even have a Pet Spaw in the first place? What benefit is there to stressing out your dog by bringing it to the festival?

Calgary's off-leash dog parks equate to 1,600 Canadian Football League fields. Surely they're happier there than a super-crowded street.

Veterinarian Dr. Wendy McClelland is the CEO and chief medical officer of Vets To Go Mobile. In a recent blog on dogs and festivals, she said that people really need to think about their dogs' size, temperament and health when it comes to bringing dogs to the Lilac Festival.



Does this look like a crowd of people you want to bring your dog into? Definitely not, Mike Morrison says. METRO FILE

"Even large breed dogs can get underfoot at times, while some smaller and medium breeds like Shih-Tzus, beagles and terriers can go unseen in large crowds of people."

Simply put, an extremely busy street festival is no place for your dog, or any pet for that matter.

On this week's episode of Vets To Go Radio on NewsTalk 770, Greg Habstritt, also of

Vets To Go, said: "It's not only keeping your pet happy and healthy, but that other festival-goers are happy as well."

Anyone who has a pet knows how much joy and happiness they bring to our lives. Bringing them into a potentially dangerous and stressful situation is no way to thank them.

Mike Morrison tweets from

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Events

1 FUNNYFEST

Friday: Various venues

The annual Calgary comedy festival is celebrating its 15th year with packed schedule of local, Canadian and international comedians, including Matt Bilon, Dez Reed and Tommy Savitt performing at various venues. Friday's Best of the Fest show with Jamie Hutchinson and Ron Vaudry takes place at Nicastro's Showroom (2820 Centre St. N.E.) at 7 p.m. funnyfest.com.

2 NAPALMPOM

Friday: The Nite Owl

Local rockers Napalmpom bring their blistering dueling guitars and big, dumb, fun rock 'n' roll to the Nite Owl House Party with guests Windigo, KJ (of Chixdiggit fame) and the awesomely named Norwegian Icebreaker. Show starts at 9 p.m. Tickets at Sloth Records or at the door.

3 MATT & BEN

Saturday: Motel Theatre, Arts Commons

Written by comedians Mindy Kaling and Brenda Withers, Matt & Ben is a tongue-in-cheek look at the early days of Hollywood stars Matt Damon and Ben Affleck. The young actors – played by women – think they're being tested by a higher power when the script for Good Will Hunting mysteriously falls from the sky. artscommons.ca.

4 LILAC FESTIVAL

Sunday: 4th Street

One of Calgary's favourite outdoor events, the Lilac Festival takes over 4th Street between 12th Avenue and Elbow Drive S.W. If the weather is nice, it can seem like the unofficial start of summer with local businesses, artisans, restaurants and pubs setting up of vendor tents, as well as free dance demonstrations and performances by such Calgary acts as Cowpuncher and JJ Shiplett. lilacfestival.net.



Winnipeg singer Greg MacPherson, who won praise for his album, *Fireball*, performs at the Palomino on Friday night. CONTRIBUTED

Pragmatic musician unleashes a Fireball

BACKSTAGE PASS

Winnipeg artist wants to more than just scrape by in music



Lisa Wilton
For Metro | Calgary

For Greg MacPherson, choosing between music as a full-time job or part-time gig was a no brainer.

Now, this is the sentence where most other musicians would declare sleeping on the street preferable to wasting any moment of the day not concentrating on their greatest passion. Perhaps it's because he's been honing his craft for the past two decades and the 'starving artist' cliché

has worn thin, but MacPherson is a bit more pragmatic about his music career.

"I realized early on that the lifestyle and effort you had to put into it wasn't really conducive to the way I wanted to live my life," says the Winnipeg-based singer and songwriter. "There are a lot of artists who do well, but it can be a shitty lifestyle. If you don't mind living out of a suitcase and sleeping on people's couches every night and just scraping by financially or hustling all the time then it's fine. But I'm not very good at the hustling stuff so I don't enjoy it."

MacPherson, who plays the Palomino on Friday night, has been executive director of a Winnipeg neighbourhood renewal organization for the past four years. He says rather than distracting him from his

TICKETS

Tickets for Greg MacPherson with guests Serious Clouds and Walden at the Palomino are \$12 at Sloth Records or at the door.

music, the job has allowed him to be more productive when focusing on songwriting, performing or recording.

"When I first started out as the ED here I dumped a lot of time into it," he says. "But at the same time I started a record label (Disintegration Records) and I was in about seven bands. I actually find that it's much easier now that I have a supportive job. Writing and performing is something I have to do, but I don't do it to make money now."

The Nova Scotia-born singer made his solo debut at

a Winnipeg bar in 1995 and has slowly but surely built up a dedicated fan base with his passionate, punk-tinged roots rock.

His latest album, *Fireball*, is a raw, intense, guitar-driven rock record that garnered critical acclaim but was criminally under-appreciated by the masses when it was released in 2013.

Like his eight previous releases, *Fireball* benefits from MacPherson's talent as a lyricist. While his songs touch upon societal issues, he generally stays clear of making grand political statements.

"I'm much better writing from a point of personal experience and sincerity," he says. "And a sense of humour, too. I don't want to bash people over the head or insult people. That doesn't get you anywhere."

ENTERTAINMENT

Q&A: Chris Hewitt

Some people have fond memories of their grad dances. Other people, not so much. But most would probably love the chance to either relive or redo that particular evening. Chris Hewitt, who throws the popular monthly indie/retro/industrial dance party Hang The DJ at Dickens Pub, is turning the club into a high school gymnasium for the first-annual HTDJ Retro Prom on Saturday for that very reason.

What gave you the idea of doing a Retro Prom?

I'm finding people are really gravitating towards themed events and costume opportunities. I wanted to add a few more HTDJ special events this year and this one, in particular, allowed me to get more retro than usual.

How retro is 'retro'? What should people wear??

The intent is to make it specifically an '80s retro prom. I think for most people, the term 'retro' does mean 1980s now. I'll be playing the retro people have come to expect from Hang The DJ (Depeche Mode, Duran Duran, OMD etc.), but I will be expanding into more '80s classic prom party music territory like Hall & Oates and Madonna. As for what to wear, I'm hoping for outrageous prom dresses, massive hair, ridiculous corsages and overall awkwardness to rule the night. We'll have a photographer there.

So, if you play Depeche Mode's A Question of Lust and I run to the bathroom crying because the cute guy I like is slow dancing with another girl, you're totally not going to judge, right?

I will truly be let down if your eyeliner isn't streaming down your face by the end of the night. You won't be alone I'm sure as it wouldn't be prom without dozens of crying girls and oblivious guys.

LISA WILTON/FOR METRO

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Lowen Pawliw, left, and Kevin Chernenkoff are bringing *Kung Fury* to Calgary for a one-night-only screening at the Globe Cinema on Monday. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Time is now for martial arts flick

MOVIES

Passion for all things '80s brings *Kung Fury* to Calgary



Robson Fletcher
Metro | Calgary

So, it's a movie about a renegade kung-fu cop who travels back in time from the 1980s to fight Adolf Hitler but goes too far and winds up "in the goddamn Viking age," where he enlists the help of a Norse god to topple the Third Reich.

Yes, it's *Kung Fury*, and it's coming to a big screen in Calgary — for one night only.

Just like the crowd-funded

film itself, the local screening was the product of an idea, community support, and a passion for 1980s culture.

"Personally, the '80s was my favourite era for movies, clothing, hairstyles, and music. So, it's right up my alley," said Kevin Chernenkoff who, along with his buddy Lowen Pawliw, is organizing a showing of the 30-minute film at the Globe Cinema on Monday evening.

The pair of longtime friends reached out to the Swedish producers of *Kung Fury* and got the OK to show it locally at no charge. They planned to rent out the Globe Theatre, which ended up offering the space for free, as well.

Tickets are \$10 each and include a drink. Proceeds will be donated to the Movember Foundation for men's health, a char-



People who like moustaches probably also like *Kung Fury*.

Kevin Chernenkoff

ity Chernenkoff figured would overlap with the movie's target demographic of young males.

Kung Fury screened at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year, after a long process that began with a concept trailer released on Boxing Day 2013 that has since been viewed more than 10 million times and led to more than \$600,000 being raised through crowdfunding to turn the idea into a real film.

For more info on the screening, visit kungfuryyy.com.

IN BRIEF

Cooler weather helping wildfire crews

Weather was helping crews battle wildfires Thursday as the province shifted more effort to protecting oil sands projects in the northeast.

Scott Long, a government spokesman, said the fire just north of Cold Lake had grown to 200-square kilometres in size.

"That is where the weight of efforts from the wildfire organization is right now in terms of personnel and resources," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ROADS

Woman badly injured in motorcycle crash

A 36-year-old woman was sent to hospital in life-threatening condition after a motorcycle crash in the city's southwest Wednesday night.

According to police, officers were called just before 11 p.m. to the intersection of 14 Street and 10 Avenue SW where police believe the female driver of the Kawasaki ER650 Motorcycle ran a red light and struck the side of an eastbound Chevrolet Uplander.

The rider was taken to Foot-

hills Medical Centre and was said to have sustained multiple limb fractures and serious head and neck trauma, according to police.

The occupants of the Uplander weren't injured and the rider was said to be wearing a helmet at the time of the crash. Speed and alcohol are not believed to be factors in the collision.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the city's traffic office at 403-567-4000.

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A truly Canadian opera

LOVE POTION NO. 9

Revamping a classic with a Calgarian twist



Jennifer Friesen
For Metro

It's a tale as old as time: High-school nerd has his eye on the popular girl, but the star of the

Canadian bobsled team shows up to sweep her off her feet before prom.

What may sound like a strangely Canadian brat-pack movie is actually the plot of Calgary's latest opera. This weekend, the Cowtown Opera Company is revamping the classic, *The Elixir of Love*, as *Love Potion No. 9* by picking up the plot and dropping it in Calgary during the 1988 Olympics.

"We always ask ourselves:

how can we break some of the stereotypes that are there and put a fresh perspective on opera?" said Michelle Minke, artistic director of the Cowtown Opera Company. "Opera is always evolving (and) we want to show Calgarians that opera can be for everybody."

With a few Oilers jokes, scrunchies, 80s slang and an opera rendition of the 1988 Olympic theme song, "Winter Games," by David Foster, the

show promises a new take on the old format.

Minke said she hopes that, by re-imagining opera, she can keep the next generation interested.

"Now with Netflix or Crave TV, it's harder to entice people to come to the opera," she said. "But there's nothing like the opera. There's nothing like how those high notes hit you."

Love Potion No. 9 plays at Festival Hall, Inglewood from May 29 through May 31.



Leading lady Lauren Woods acts out the part of Adina in Cowtown Opera Company's Love Potion No. 9 JENNIFER FRIESEN/METRO



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CRIME

Impending ALERT cuts cause concern



Morgan Modjeski
Metro|Calgary

Potential cuts coming to the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams are cause for concern for one Calgary city councillor. At a recent Calgary Police Commission meeting, members heard ALERT is facing an operating deficit of \$12.4 million for the 2016 — 2017 fiscal year.

As a result, a number of programs, including the Safe Communities and Neighbourhood (SCAN) Program, could be cut.

Using civil legislation to target properties used for illegal purposes such as prostitution and drug trafficking, the program has shut down 18 problematic properties in Cal-

gary since its launch in 2008.

News of the potential cuts caused great concern for Ward 1 City Councillor Ward Sutherland as SCAN has helped shut down several drug dens in his community.

"This has long-term effects," said Sutherland, noting he wants the NDP to look at the work SCAN has done already.

"We have to realize that it's just not the house that gets shut down, the whole train of where the drugs go gets shutdown."

ALERT said with the new NDP government, no cuts are confirmed and at this time nothing has been decided.

However, in a December 2014 interview, Edmonton Police commissioner Shami Sandhu, who chairs ALERT's board, told Metro they were asked by the previous government to prepare a tight budget, one that could see dozens of officers cut.

Supt. Charmaine Bulger, ALERT's CEO said in a statement that the organization is eager to meet with the new Justice Minister and Solicitor General Kathleen Ganley about its budget. "ALERT continues to work with the Alberta Government and our policing partners in the budgeting process," she explained.

“We have to realize that it's just not the house that gets shut down, the whole train of where the drugs go gets shutdown.”

Ward 1 City Councillor Ward Sutherland

IN BRIEF

Premier: NDP 'unlikely' to hit target for restoring post-secondary job program

Restoring a program that offers thousands of summertime jobs for students will have to wait until next summer, says the premier.

The NDP has pledged to revive the Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP) scuttled by the Tory government in 2013. A statement on the party's website dated April 21 says the jobs would be created "this summer," but

Premier Rachel Notley told reporters that's "unlikely" to happen.

"We're too far into the summer season in order to get the benefits of it," she said. "We're examining other phased ways of bringing it back and, without question, it will be back by next summer."

STEP was established by PC Premier Peter Lougheed in 1972 to spur creation of summer jobs for students.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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New oral meds help diabetes patients

HEALTH

Woman says treatment changed life



Anna Brooks
Metro | Calgary

Calgary-resident Karen Kroeker had tested out a myriad of oral medications before getting the devastating news that she would have to go on insulin to treat her case of Type 2 diabetes.

Kroeker, an X-ray tech at Foot-hills Hospital, said she's seen a lot of patients suffer serious complications from Type 2 diabetes — including her father, who lost his kidneys to the disease before he died.

"Working where I do in the heart unit, I see a lot of complications — your eyes go, you can lose your feet and legs ..." Kroeker explained. "It's really sad to see."

Kroeker herself faced a num-

ber of problems dealing with increases in injections and taking an assortment of medications. She suffered constant nausea and weight gain, and it affected her relationships and how she performed at work. From her own experience working in the health care system, Kroeker's switch to Invokana — a relatively new oral treatment to lower blood sugar — made a world of difference.

"I wasn't sick any more ... I've decreased my insulin and just feel a lot better about myself," she said.

Dr. David Lau, endocrinologist and diabetes specialist, said new medications like this are effective not just for decreasing blood sugar, but in maintaining a healthy body weight.

"Other medications are often associated with weight gain, which makes the disease even worse. This new class of oral medications helps make insulin more effective and at the same time helps people lose weight," Lau said.



Karen Kroeker (second right) has had the support of her husband Glen and children Mallory and Logan to help her through her struggle with type 2 diabetes. ANNA BROOKS/METRO

POLITICS

Shredding may have been justified: Notley

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley says the public shouldn't rush to judge allegations that documents have been illegally shredded since the Progressive Conservatives were defeated earlier this month.

The privacy commissioner and Alberta's public interest commissioner are both investigating.

Opposition parties were demanding action after bags and bags of shredded documents were seen being hauled away from the legislature after the PCs lost their 44-year hold on power in the May 5 election.

Notley, who ordered that the shredding stop and requested an investigation, said Thursday it's too soon to draw any conclusions.

She said in many cases the shredding of confidential documents is acceptable and in some cases it is illegal not to destroy material.

She is waiting for a final report from the privacy commissioner, she said.

"It's important to understand that there are a lot of circumstances in which shredding is entirely appropriate



Alberta Premier Rachel Notley. METRO FILE

and, in fact, failing to shred, in and of itself, can breach the legislation.

"Shredding those documents is the right thing to do, assuming the original document remains online, in the computer or somewhere," she said.

"We need to understand that the existence of a bag of shredded documents does not mean that's the end of the document as we know it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Zehaf Bibeau exhorted others to attack: Sources

PARLIAMENT HILL SHOOTING

Unreleased video clips taken before shots fired

As calmly as Michael Zehaf Bibeau laid out the reasons for his fateful attack on Parliament Hill last October, he exhorted others to carry out similar attacks, say sources familiar with the unreleased portion of his final video manifesto.

The missing segments also include Zehaf Bibeau mentioning a number of Middle Eastern names, none of which appear to be linked to the Oct. 22 rampage.

The details come from two sources who spoke about the video on condition of anonymity.

They say during the missing 18 seconds, the 32-year-old calls on others to carry out attacks against countries such as Canada.

The sources say those named in the video do not appear to have played a role in Zehaf

Bibeau's attack. Zehaf Bibeau recorded the video in his car moments before the deadly rampage, which claimed the life of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo and ended his own.

RCMP commissioner Bob Paulson has said investigators had "sound operational" reasons for keeping the 18-second portion of the video secret when the other 55 seconds were released nearly three months ago.

As to why the RCMP withheld part of the video, the RCMP wanted to ensure there were no hidden messages contained in it, the sources said.

In the portion of the video already released, Zehaf Bibeau says his actions are a response to Canada's military involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq. "Canada's officially become one of our enemies by fighting and bombing us and creating a lot of terror in our countries and killing us and killing our innocents."

Paulson has said the RCMP would release the remaining video this week or next.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Michael Zehaf Bibeau is shown running toward Parliament Hill on Oct. 23, 2014. Speaker Andrew Scheer said a report will be released next week. RCMP/THE CANADIAN PRESS

LEGISLATION

Tampon tax nixed

Tampons will be a little cheaper as of Canada Day now that the Conservative government is moving to exempt feminine hygiene products from GST.

The House of Commons unanimously adopted an NDP-sponsored motion calling for the change earlier this month — a motion that passed after women in the Conservative caucus threatened to boycott the vote if their party didn't approve.

Opponents of the tax have long decried it as being entirely discriminatory, as it is only paid by women, and on an essential product, while other goods

deemed as luxuries escape the levy altogether.

Why the change is happening now wasn't immediately clear. Finance Minister Joe Oliver was not available for comment. Conservative MP Michelle Rempel called the change in line with the government's lower-tax policies.

The NDP suggested another reason — it's an election year. "Women have made it very clear that they are paying attention," said MP Irene Mathysen, who brought the motion before the Commons and also had a private member's bill on the subject. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

New ban aims to support transgender individuals

A political roadblock that imperiled NDP MPP Cheri DiNovo's landmark legislation to ban transgender "conversion therapy" has been cleared.

"This means that right away the message gets sent to children across the province that what many of them are still undergoing

isn't okay and that ... we are all on their side," the Parkdale—High Park MPP said.

DiNovo's Affirming Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Act will ban doctors from billing OHIP for counselling gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered patients to change sexual orientation or gender identity. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Embrace differences, top judge says

ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

McLachlin decries history of native assimilation

Canada's top judge decried the legacy of "assimilation" policies on aboriginal people in a speech on the public value of diversity,

and called for "inclusive" leaders in "all our institutions, religious and secular" to promote tolerance.

Beverley McLachlin, the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, delivered the wide-ranging keynote speech Thursday at the Global Centre for Pluralism, a non-profit centre founded by the Aga Khan and the Canadian government.

It comes on the eve of a his-

toric report into Canada's relationship with aboriginal people.

It also comes as the limits of public tolerance are tested by national security threats made by Islamist fundamentalists, and political vows of "zero-tolerance" toward perceived threats. But McLachlin argued tolerance, within limits, "is the only way forward," saying the Canadian government's 19th century assimilation policies toward ab-

original people would today be called "cultural genocide."

Democratic societies succeed when they tolerate and embrace religious and cultural differences, but McLachlin said there will always be limits to that. She suggested indirectly "21st century jihadists" will not be shielded by guarantees of free speech or religion. The speech canvassed past examples of cultural and religious intolerance in Canada, and

said "the most glaring blemish on the Canadian historic record" is "our treatment of the First Nations that lived here at the time of colonization."

"Yet the legacy of intolerance lives on in the lives of First Nation people and their children — a legacy of too much poverty, too little education, and overrepresentation of aboriginal people in our courts," she said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Chief justice of the Supreme Court, Beverley McLachlin
THE CANADIAN PRESS

PARLIAMENT

MPs grapple with voting against belief

MPs will begin to grapple later Thursday with an issue that's sure to become a hallmark of the next Parliament: what does one do if a piece of legislation flies in the face of their fundamental beliefs?

A Conservative private member's motion that would allow members of Parliament to vote freely on matters of conscience

is due to come up for debate in the House of Commons. Motions aren't binding on government, but the debate underscores that MPs are already playing the political groundwork to deal with the landmark Supreme Court decision earlier this year on physician-assisted suicide.

"There are issues of conscience, Supreme Court of Canada decisions, that deal with matters that are difficult and people have differences of views and differences of opinions on that," said Conservative MP Ed Komarnicki, who introduced the motion.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay has begun informal consulta-

tions on what the legislation ought to look like and has repeatedly said a more formal process would be announced soon.

In February, the top court struck down the criminal ban on assisted suicide, giving the federal government a year to draft new laws. The court decision provoked sharp reactions on Parliament Hill.

Many MPs showed up at the annual March for Life on Parliament Hill, whose anti-abortion theme was expanded this year to include protecting "all human life from the time of conception to nat-

ural death."

Not all Conservatives are on that side of the debate, however.

Conservative MP Stephen Fletcher responded to the Supreme Court ruling by introducing legislation in the Senate that would allow for physician-assisted death.

Those bills likely won't pass before Parliament rises for the summer and is subsequently dissolved for the fall election campaign. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Members should all have, individually, the right to vote their conscience.

Ed Komarnicki,
Conservative MP

IN BRIEF

Russia slams Canada for war criminal's final escape

The Russian Embassy in Ottawa ripped into the federal government Thursday after news emerged that a longtime Canadian resident who was No. 2 on the Simon Wiesenthal Center's list of most wanted Nazi war criminals had died.

Vladimir Katriuk, 93, had been ill for a long time before his recent death, lawyer Orest Rudzik said in an interview.

"I think it was last

Friday," Rudzik said from Oakville, Ont. "It was a stroke or something do with a stroke."

Katriuk, a native of Ukraine who had been an avid beekeeper for years in Ormstown, Que., was at the heart of allegations he participated in a village massacre in 1943 in what is now known as Belarus.

An official with the Russian Embassy said Katriuk's death makes it impossible, "unfortunately," for him to face justice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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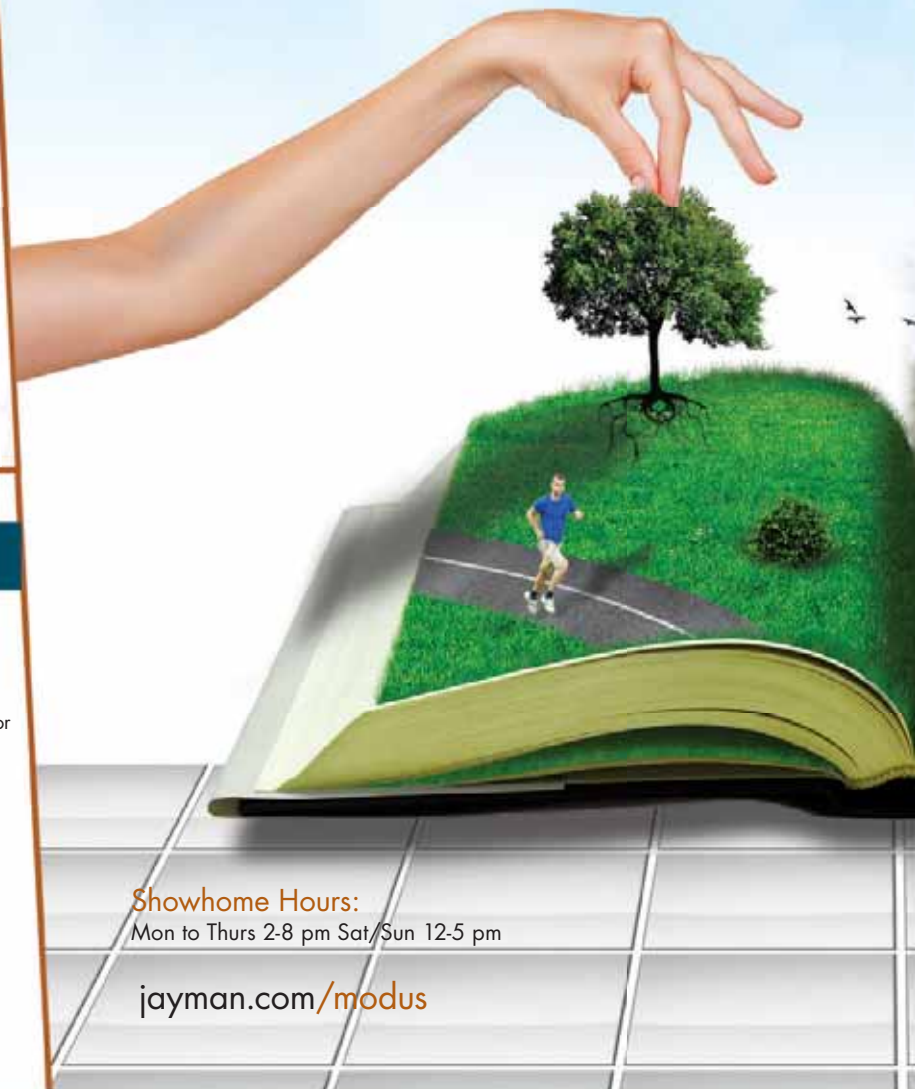
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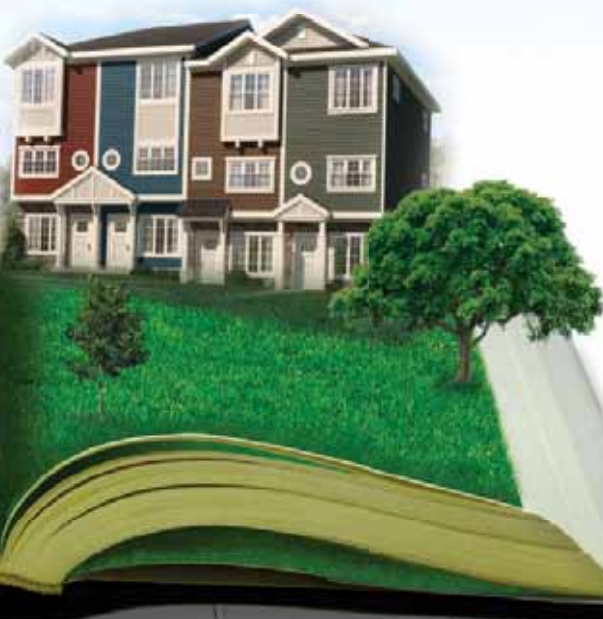
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Young bear spends day wandering city



A yearling black bear stands up against the side of a house Wednesday afternoon in Casper, Wyo.

ALAN ROGERS/THE CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CASPER, WYOMING

Exhausted yearling black bear captured for relocation

After leading wildlife officials on a daylong chase through a Wyoming city, an exhausted young black bear fell asleep under a tree.

"He was sleeping under an aspen tree just wiped out from his day's adventures," State Game and Fish spokeswoman Janet Milek told the Casper Star-Tribune newspaper.

"He was so sound asleep he didn't move when we used the tranquilizer," she said.

Game wardens captured the bear around 6:45 p.m. Wednesday after authorities tried several times to corner it in Casper. It was initially spotted at 6:30 a.m.

People watched from their

back porches as the animal hopped fences, and police blocked off streets to allow wardens to track the animal.

At some homes, officers joined residents on their porches and peered through binoculars in search of the bear.

It's not uncommon for young bears to wander through the Wyoming towns of Glenrock of Casper, especially in subdivisions close to Casper Mountain.

Regional wildlife co-ordinator Justin Binfet says the bear probably came down from Casper Mountain. The bear will be released, wildlife officials said.

"The vast majority of the time, these are yearling bears that the mother forces out on their own," Binfet said.

"In these situations, it's a scared little yearling black bear, and it wound up in an unfamiliar place. It's more scared than anything."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



In this 2012 photo, a bronze sculpture of Lucille Ball is displayed in Lucille Ball Memorial Park in her home village of Celoron, N.Y. THE POST-JOURNAL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

I LOVE LUCY

'Scary Lucy' statue will be replaced

A businessman has donated \$20,000 to replace an infamous statue of comedian Lucille Ball that's located in her western New York state hometown.

The Post-Journal of Jamestown reports officials in the village of Celoron announced this week that Ernie Boch Jr. of Norwood, near Boston, had donated the funds to purchase a new statue.

Boch, president and CEO of Subaru of New England, said he made the donation

because he loved Lucille Ball and is a big fan of her 1950s television show, I Love Lucy.

The life-size bronze in Lucille Ball Memorial Park drew international attention last month when a Facebook posting called for replacing what has been dubbed "Scary Lucy" because its face bears little resemblance to the star.

The village board has agreed to give that statue to the National Comedy Center in neighbouring Jamestown.

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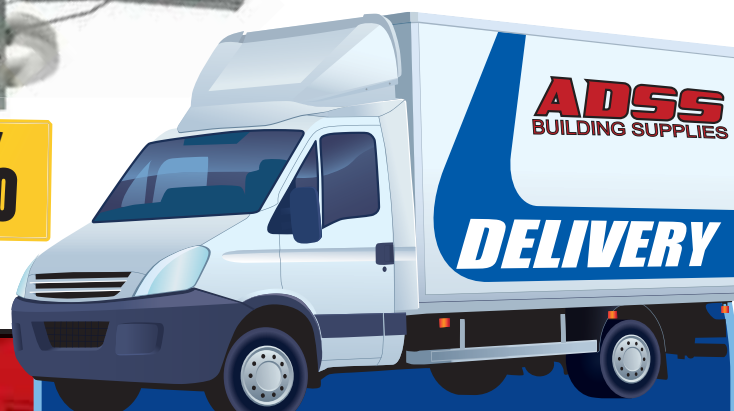
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Kurds inspired in fight against ISIL

SYRIA

Group closing in on Tel Abyad, a hub for militants

In contrast to the Iraqi army's failures, Kurdish fighters in Syria are on the march against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), capturing towns and villages in an oil-rich swath of the country's northeast under the cover of U.S.-led airstrikes.

As the Kurds close in on Tel Abyad, a major commercial centre on the Turkish border, their advance highlights the decisive importance of combining airstrikes with the presence of a cohesive and motivated ally on the ground — so clearly absent in Iraq.

In Syria, a country now split mostly between al-Qaida-style militants and forces loyal to President Bashar Assad, the U.S. has found a reliable partner in the country's main Kurdish fighting force, known as the YPG. They are moderate, mostly secular fighters, driven by revolutionary fervour and deep conviction in their cause.



The YPG doesn't lack a will to fight, like soldiers in the Syrian army ... who mostly fight for a salary.

Wladimir van Wilgenburg,
a Middle East analyst

+ SUCCESSES

January

The YPG liberated Kobani from ISIL militants and began a wide offensive in which they regained much of the territory they had lost.

May 6

Kurdish fighters and their allies launched an offensive from the northeastern province of Hassekeh in less than three weeks, capturing the Aziz mountain along with 221 Kurdish and Christian villages that were held by ISIL.

Since the beginning of May, they have wrestled back more than 200 Kurdish and Christian towns in northeastern Syria, as well as strategic mountains seized earlier by ISIL. Along the way, they have picked up ammunition, weapons and vehicles left behind by extremists.

The push has gotten them closer to Tel Abyad, a major avenue for commerce for the extremist group, through which it smuggles foreign fighters and sells black-market oil to help fund its conquests. The city is also a key link between Turkey and the northern Syrian city of Raqqa, ISIL's de-facto capital in its self-declared caliphate.

"The YPG doesn't lack a will to fight, like soldiers in the Syrian army, or soldiers in the Iraqi army who mostly fight for a salary," said Wladimir van Wilgenburg, a Middle East analyst at the Jamestown Foundation in Washington. "The YPG is much more motivated than other forces in



Kurdish female fighters of the YPG carry their weapons as they prepare for a battle against ISIL militants near the village of Mabrouka, northeast Syria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

the region, and doesn't lack cohesion and doesn't have coordination problems."

"The YPG is quite ideological, while the Syrian and Iraqi army aren't very well motivated," van Wilgenburg added.

The Iraqi military has struggled to make gains after its humiliating defeats last year, when it virtually crumbled in the face of the militant onslaught in northern Iraq. Poor training, corruption and sectarian politics have all been cited as reasons

for the military's shortcomings. The U.S. spent billions of dollars training Iraqi forces from 2003 to 2011, but much of that training did not reach the foot soldiers battling ISIL today.

Last week, U.S. Defence Secretary Ash Carter criticized the Iraqi army following the fall of Ramadi, the strategic capital of the country's largest Sunni province of Anbar, saying the Iraqi military lacked the "will to fight."

Within days, ISIL fighters

had also dealt a major blow to Assad's forces in Syria, seizing the historic city of Palmyra, a major crossroad linking the capital, Damascus, with territory to the east and west. In images reminiscent of the Iraqi defeat in Ramadi, Syrian soldiers fled the city, leaving behind tanks and ammunition.

By contrast, Syria's Kurds have shown remarkable cohesiveness. Spurred by ideology and nationalistic fervour, they fought ferociously to claw back

territory after militants captured the Kurdish town of Kobani and dozens of surrounding villages last fall. The ISIL descent on Kobani led the U.S. to widen its air campaign from Iraq into Syria to assist the Kurds.

Despite the fact that ISIL had heavy weapons and far more fighters, the Kurds resisted the offensive on Kobani, conducting fierce street battles until the U.S. air-dropped weapons and intensified the airstrikes.

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WEEKEND, May 29-31, 2015 **29**

Record rains, floods hit Texas

SOUTH CENTRAL U.S.

At least 21 people dead, others missing as rivers swell

Many Texas cities remain in danger though a barrage of deadly thunderstorms has tapered, as officials warn about the possibility of more flooding from rain-swollen rivers.

The storms and floods in Texas and Oklahoma this week have left at least 21 people dead and at least 10 others missing.

In suburban Houston, the rains have pushed the San Jacinto River above flood stage, and its waters were expected to cover streets in subdivisions along the west fork of the river, possibly stranding people in their homes for days if they don't leave.

In Wharton, about 60 miles southwest of Houston, the mayor asked residents to voluntarily evacuate about 300 homes on the west side of

the city due to the predicted rise of the Colorado River. In the Parker County town of Horseshoe Bend in North Texas, officials asked about 250 residents to leave their homes as the Brazos River was expected to rise above its flood stage of 21 feet (6.4 metres) on Thursday.

Meanwhile, in Central Texas, crews continued searching for nine people feared dead after the swollen Blanco River smashed through Wimberley, a small tourist town between San Antonio and Austin, over the Memorial Day weekend.

In Houston, residents whose homes were flooded by torrential rains on Monday and Tuesday also continued their cleanup efforts.

While the Houston area got a respite from rainy weather for most of Wednesday, the heavy rains from earlier in the week were still making their way downstream. By late Wednesday,

the San Jacinto was at 52 feet (15.8 metres), nearly three feet (a metre) above its flood stage, said Kim Jackson, a spokeswoman for the Harris County Flood Control District.

In Houston, between 800 and 1,400 homes have already been damaged or destroyed in the central Texas corridor that includes Wimberley — 744 of them in San Marcos alone.

This has been the wettest month on record for Texas, even with several days left. The state climatologist's office said Wednesday that Texas has

15m

The height of the San Jacinto River above its flood stage.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

gotten an average of 7.54 inches (19.15 centimetres) of rain in May, breaking the old record of 6.66 inches (16.92 centimetres), set in June 2004. While rain is in the forecast the next couple of days for many of the affected areas, the chances for showers are greater during the weekend. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Mailboxes stand along a road covered in flood water from the San Jacinto River, Thursday at Cooper Park in Kingwood, Texas. Although the deadly thunderstorms that lashed much of Texas have tapered off, many cities were still in danger of flooding Thursday as heavy rain from earlier in the week poured downstream, swelling rivers. PAT SULLIVAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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32 WEEKEND, May 29-31, 2015

World metro NEWS



FIFA President Sepp Blatter, front right, speaks at the opening ceremony of the FIFA congress in Zurich, Switzerland, Thursday. The FIFA congress with the president's election is scheduled for Friday. WALTER BIERI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FIFA chief resists calls to resign

ELECTION

Blatter pledges to restore trust in soccer body amid scandal

As defiant as ever, Sepp Blatter resisted calls to resign as FIFA president Thursday and deflected blame for the massive bribery and corruption scandal engulfing soccer's world governing body.

"We, or I, cannot monitor everyone all of the time," Blatter said in his first public remarks on the crisis that has further tainted his leadership on the eve of his bid for a fifth term as president.

The 79-year-old Blatter insisted he could restore trust in world soccer after a pair of corruption investigations brought "shame and humiliation" on his organization and the world's most popular sport.

"We cannot allow the reputation of football and FIFA to

+ BACKGROUND

A U.S. Justice Department investigation accused 14 international soccer officials or sports marketing executives of bribery, racketeering, fraud and money-laundering over two decades.

Seven officials — including two FIFA vice-presidents and members of its finance committee — remained in custody in Zurich on Thursday. Blatter was not implicated in the indictment.

be dragged through the mud any longer," he said. "It has to stop here and now."

Despite a tide of criticism and pressure on him to leave, Blatter is moving ahead with a presidential election Friday that is likely to bring him another four years in office as one of the most powerful men

in sports.

"The events of yesterday have cast a long shadow over football," he said, his voice shaky at times, in a speech to open FIFA's two-day congress. "There can be no place for corruption of any kind."

Blatter refused to back down after European soccer body UEFA demanded earlier Thursday that he quit following the latest — and most serious — allegations to discredit FIFA during his 17 years in office.

"Enough is enough," UEFA President Michel Platini said. "People no longer want him anymore and I don't want him anymore, either."

Blatter, who is expected to win Friday's election against Prince Ali bin al-Hussein of Jordan, is coming under increasing scrutiny amid U.S. and Swiss federal investigations into high-level corruption at FIFA.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For more on the FIFA scandal, see page 56

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INDIA HEAT WAVE

Monsoons can't come soon enough

Eating onions, lying in the shade and splashing into rivers, Indians were doing whatever they could Thursday to stay cool during a brutal heat wave that has killed more than 1,400 in the past month.

But some had no choice but to venture into the heat. "Either we have to work, putting our lives under threat, or we go without food," said farmer Narasimha, in badly hit Andhra Pradesh state.

Meteorological officials have said the heat would likely last several more days — scorching crops, killing wildlife and endangering anyone labouring out-

doors. Officials warned people to stay out of the sun, cover their heads and drink plenty of water. Still, poverty forced many to work despite the risks.

Most of the 1,412 heat-related deaths so far have occurred in Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring Telangana, where temperatures have soared up to 47 degrees Celsius, according to government figures.

"The rains which have eluded us for the last couple of years have created serious drought conditions," said state minister K.T. Rama Rao in Telangana.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Indian devotees hold umbrellas to protect themselves from the sun during the annual festival of Sufi saint Saiwali Pir Baba at Sangral on Thursday. CHANNI ANAND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

22 people 'may have been exposed' to anthrax

Human error probably was not a factor in the U.S. Army's mistaken shipment of live anthrax samples to numerous U.S. government and commercial laboratories in the United States and in South Korea, the Army's top general said Thursday.

Gen. Ray Odierno, the Army chief of staff, told reporters the problem may have been a failure in the technical process of killing, or inactivating, anthrax samples. The process in this case "might not have completely killed" the samples as intended before they were shipped, he said.

U.S. officials at Osan Air Base in South Korea said in a statement that the anthrax bacteria it received for training purposes "might not be an inert training sample as expected," and as a result, the suspect anthrax was destroyed by hazardous materials teams Wednesday. They said 22 people at Osan "may have been exposed" to the live anthrax and were given precautionary medical treatments. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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AUTO INDUSTRY

Faulty airbags lead to a massive recall

Transport Canada has released a detailed list of vehicles being recalled in Canada due to faulty airbags made by Japan's Takata Corp., saying 1.2 million vehicles in this country are part of the worldwide recall.

The list of affected vehicles was posted online and includes the Honda Civic, Accord, and CR-V, Chrysler products, including the Dodge Ram and the Chrysler 300, BMW sedans and the X5, and Ford's Ranger and Mustang.

The majority of the affected models are from the 2001 to 2011 model years, although more recent Ford Mustang models are also affected.

The Takata airbag recall began in 2008 over concerns that airbag inflators can explode with too much force, spewing metal shrapnel into drivers or passengers when deployed.

American regulators say six

people have been killed and more than 100 injured due to the problem, though Transport Canada says it has no reports of any deaths or injuries in Canada from consumers or auto manufacturers.

The full list of the 1,242,111 vehicles included in the expanded recall can be found on Ottawa's HealthyCanadians.ca website, while a list of affected models in older recalls for the same issue can be found on Transport Canada's website.

Affected vehicles include Honda's Civic, Accord, Odyssey, CR-V, Pilot, Element, and Ridgeline models; Acura's TL, CL, MDX, and 1.7EL models; Chrysler's Aspen and 300 models; Dodge's Charger, Magnum, Ram, Dakota, and Durango models; Ford's Ranger and Mustang models; as well as BMW's X5 and 3-series and 5-series models.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mushroom pickers eyeing epic harvest

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Record forest fires sparks hope of high morel yield

Campgrounds are full and cars are lined up along a remote section of highway near Kakisa in the Northwest Territories, as residents and southern workers gather for what they hope will be a bumper harvest of a rare delicacy — the morel mushroom.

The territorial government has been promoting the harvest for months as a fleeting but lucrative opportunity in the bush, suggesting hundreds of dollars a day are there literally for the picking. Others warn it's a risky venture.

"There are no guarantees," said John Colford of the N.W.T.'s Department of Industry, Trade and Investment. "But if the mushrooms do arrive, there are opportunities."

Rich, earthy-tasting morels, which pop out of soil burned over by forest fires the previous season, are prized by chefs worldwide. The wrinkly, honeycombed fungi are widely picked across North America, but have only recently been harvested in the N.W.T.

After a record 3.4 million hectares of the territory's forest burned in 2014, hopes are high for an epic yield.

Handbooks passed out at information sessions suggest



The Northwest Territories government is promoting the morel mushroom harvest as a fleeting but lucrative opportunity. GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

pickers have made anywhere from \$200 to \$1,000 a day. The territory said the total value of last year's 40-day harvest was between \$6 million and \$10 million.

This year could easily match that, said Colford. Prices in the field currently sit at around \$16 a kilogram.

The action is expected to start over the next week or

so, starting in the south and heading north.

The work is hot, dirty, buggy and swampy, said Dylan Gordon, a University of Toronto anthropologist who's writing his thesis on wild food harvesters.

"You do a lot of walking - 20, 30 kilometres a day through the bush."

The money is uncertain.

If there's no rain, the mushrooms don't show. If there's too much, oversupply depresses prices.

Gordon estimates he made about \$100 a day harvesting in 2012 — a poor year.

But it's not all about the money. Mushrooms can give northern families a chance to get out on the land together.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Bank rethinks support

Scotiabank, which in December became the title sponsor of CONCACAF's Champions League and official sponsor of the Gold Cup, says it will review its involvement in sponsoring the soccer organization in the wake of corruption allegations against senior FIFA officials. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Being Catholic is like being American: an easy butt of jokes

I don't lack reasons to be embarrassed: shiny forehead, very loud voice, a sometimes uptight nature.

Some days, I even have the bonus of being Catholic. It's a bit like being an American — you're an easy butt of jokes.

The Vatican can't go long without sparking controversy, and the pope (any pope) can't go long without inflaming the global public.

Such was the case this week. After Ireland legalized same-sex marriage in a historic referendum, a senior Vatican official said: "I think that you cannot just talk of a defeat for Christian principles but of a defeat for humanity."

How ridiculous, and (perhaps inevitably) aggrandizing. A defeat for humanity is worsening climate change. A defeat for humanity is nuclear war. Even if you don't support same-sex marriage (I do), allowing it doesn't come with such dire consequences.

That's far from my first, or likely last, embarrassment.

Last month, Pope Francis defended women's rights, while completely ignoring the deeply ingrained patriarchy of the church. He's also warned Catholics they don't need to "breed like rabbits." Thanks for the tip.

And that's not to mention the church's horrific sexual abuse scandal or the corruption and infighting revealed in the document dump

known as Vatileaks.

The Vatican can seem like it's aging out of relevance, obsessed with old rules over modern reality. It seems like an echo from another century.

That's why Pope Francis' election felt liberating. He's humble, focused more on poverty than abortion.

He is a bit like President Barack Obama. Both leaders came in on the winds of change and replaced staunch right-wing leaders.

Since both took office, their supporters have suffered disappointments. Yes, Pope Francis' gay-friendly, pro-environment stance gives me hope. Yes, Obama passed universal health care. But change hasn't been dramatic or instant under either leader. Both also have many opponents within their own ranks. Obama doesn't speak for all Americans. The Vatican doesn't speak for all Catholics.

Take Diarmuid Martin. The Archbishop of Dublin saw Ireland's referendum as a criticism of Catholicism, not of humanity.

"We have to stop and have a reality check, not move into denial of the realities," he told media.

They're not a ringing endorsement of equality — Martin does not want the church's definition of marriage changed — but his words are, at least, not embarrassing.

Happy face/Sad face

From **digital demons** to **Inuit archives**, Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week



True North strong and free?

According to American middle schoolers, the Canadian national anthem needs some revision. On a standardized civics test of 29,000 Grade 8 students, one-third answered that Canada, Australia and France "are controlled by the military," "discourage citizen participation" or "have leaders with absolute power." The correct multiple-choice response was that all three countries have power-limiting constitutions. CBC/CA



Reward offered for Syria's loneliest bird

Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has been blamed for yet another atrocity: the possible extinction of a rare bird in Palmyra, Syria. It's home to the only wild northern bald ibis outside of Morocco, a female named Zenobia who hasn't been seen since 2013. When Palmyra fell to ISIL, guards protecting three captive ibises — part of a conservation effort — fled. A Lebanese charity has offered \$1,000 for info about Zenobia's whereabouts. BBC.COM



Charlie, Charlie, gravity is spookoo

A freaky fad stole social media's soul this week. The Charlie Charlie Challenge originated as a Mexican playground game. To play, you cross two pencils on a piece of paper marked with "yes" and "no," say "Charlie, Charlie," and ask a question. If "Charlie" is there, the pencils will move and indicate an answer. The game purportedly summons a traditional Mexican "demon" named Charlie — though no such legend exists. THE NATIONAL POST



Nameless in the North no more

Black-and-white photos with grim faces and no names take on new meaning when they're part of someone's story. A tool has launched to help Inuit families search Library and Archives Canada's online trove of pictures from Canada's North, some a century old or more. The crowd-sourced Project Naming, which is also launching on Facebook, asks people to identify loved ones and ancestors to help keep indigenous history alive. CBC NORTH

Butter and eggs bust out after years in the cooler

THE KOHLER REPORT

Rebecca Kohler



I read an article this week about a recent study that says pedalling backward in a cycle-fit class is "better exercise" than pedalling forward. The news depressed me. That might not sound as depressing as some of the other stuff that's going on in the world — like global warming or war or the fact that Josh Dugger from 19 Kids has "made some very bad mistakes" — but to me it was an exhausting tidbit of information.

I find most things that follow the phrase "according to a recent study" irritating, because they often undermine something I thought I was doing right. Like, I take cycle-fit sometimes and, when I do,

I pedal forward. While I used to pat myself on the back for trying to stay active, now I'll be thinking, "Forward pedalling? Pfft. What a loser."

Sure, if I saw the headline "Study finds poutine to be high in calories," I wouldn't be mad. I never eat poutine and think, "Good for you, Rebecca!" (If I'm eating poutine, I'm probably too drunk to think — am I right, folks?)

But so many studies tell me that a good thing I'm doing could be better. It's as if every headline I read is something a passive-aggressive character would say in the movie Mean Girls: "Oh, you eat red apples? Cool. Green ones actually have fewer calories."

I'm aware that studies are important and have led to such societal improvements as cures for diseases. We need studies, I totes get it. But also,

like, shut up, you know?

Because here's the other thing about many study findings: Later studies prove them wrong. Take the other new study I read this week, which found eggs and butter aren't that bad for us after all. This after years of "Butter will kill you. Egg yolks are bad. I'm going to irritate this waitress and order an egg-white omelette." Reading the new study, I pictured egg and butter as a couple of wrongly convicted criminals, walking free from prison after being exonerated. Toast was there (he's on probation) leaning up against a car, waiting to drive them straight into my stomach.

I don't know whether it's that they're doing more studies today or that the Internet just likes to smear the studies all over my eyeballs, but I wish there was an app that

I'm aware that studies are important and have led to things like cures for diseases — like, we need studies, I totes get it. But also, like, shut up, you know?

could block them.

Because, let's face it, in a few years, studies will probably find that pedalling backward turns you into a witch.

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler

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Say Aloha to your rep, Crowe

RETROSPECTIVE

People forget, but this isn't director's only criticized film

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



For years Cameron Crowe could do no wrong. As the screenwriter of *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* (based on his book of the same name) and director of *Say Anything* and *Singles*, he became what *The New York Times* called, "a cinematic spokesman for the post-baby boom generation."

His biggest hit, *Jerry Maguire* was a romantic comedy that gave Renée Zellweger a career, Cuba Gooding Jr. an Oscar and us the catchphrase, "Show me the money!"

Then came his acknowledged masterpiece *Almost Famous*, the semi-autobiographical story of a young music journalist on the road with a band at an age when most kids still had a curfew.

He was a critical darling with box-office clout but then came a string of films that failed to connect with audiences.

This weekend he's back with *Aloha*, an "action romance" starring Bradley Cooper as a military contractor stationed with the U.S. Space program in Honolulu who reconnects with a past love (Rachel McAdams) while developing feelings



Aloha isn't the only not-amazing movie Cameron Crowe ever made, Richard Crouse reminds us. HANDOUT

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

San Andreas ★
Aloha ★★
I'll See You in My Dreams ★★★★★
Survivor ★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★★ SKIP IT
★

for a stern Air Force watchdog (Emma Stone).
Pre-release, the film may be

best known as the subject of a brutal Amy Pascal email.
In the Sony hack, leaked cor-

respondence from the former SPE co-chairman suggested she was not happy with the movie.

"I don't care how much I love the director and the actors," she said, "it never, not even once, ever works."

Variety recently reported that the film has been recut since Pascal's scathing review and quotes a current Sony executive as saying, "Is it *Say Anything* or *Jerry Maguire*? Probably not, but

is it a really entertaining movie for an audience? Yes, it is."

Moviegoers will decide the fate of *Aloha*, but its release begs for a reassessment of Crowe's recent, less successful films.

A remake of the Spanish film *Open Your Eyes*, 2001's *Vanilla Sky* starred three of Hollywood's hottest stars of the moment, Tom Cruise, Cameron Diaz and Penelope Cruz in a dark

thriller about a self-obsessed playboy whose life is turned upside down after reconstructive surgery on his face.

The surreal blend of romance and sci-fi threw critics off, but a another viewing a decade after its release reveals a daring movie that examines regret, desire and mortality.

An enjoyable darkly comic romance, *Elizabethtown* got trounced by critics (it currently sits at 28 per cent on Rotten Tomatoes) but is a great showcase for star Kirsten Dunst.

She is frequently good in films, but here she really steals this movie as the cute and kooky stewardess who has several unforgettable moments — when she tells Bloom (Orlando Bloom) to stop trying to break up with her and her giggly reaction when Bloom asks her a personal question on the telephone.

Without her performance the trip to *Elizabethtown* wouldn't be nearly as much fun.

Finally, *We Bought a Zoo*, the story of a widower who swallows his grief by buying a zoo and finding love, shouldn't work. It's too sentimental and manipulative by half, but luckily Matt Damon is there to ground the flighty story.

A postscript (and no, I'm not going to tell you what it is) that even Steven Spielberg would find schmaltzy, works because star Damon hits all the right notes and Crowe's dialogue sings. A father-and-son argument is a showstopper and you'll likely never use the word "whatever" again without thinking of this movie.

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The Rock takes on Mother Nature

SAN ANDREAS

Dwayne Johnson plays the hero in disaster flick

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Life

Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson recently received a letter from a big-name fan, and it’s been making him think back a lot to his childhood. “When I was 8 years old, I saw *Raiders of the Lost Ark* in Charlotte, North Carolina. I walked out of there so inspired. I loved the movie and I knew I wanted to be that guy — charming, cool, kicks ass, cool with the ladies — but I had no connection to Hollywood. So to be sitting here today, I’m grateful and very happy,” Johnson says.

“And I received a letter from that gentleman who directed *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Very cool. He reached out and he said a lot of cool, motiv-

ating things.”

Johnson is in the midst of promoting *San Andreas*, a Hollywood action flick in which he plays a Los Angeles Fire Department rescue pilot facing off against the biggest earthquake in California history. It’s not exactly Indiana Jones, but he clearly overcame that whole no-connection-to-Hollywood thing.

For Johnson, even when making a big, loud summer action spectacle, it’s important that the science is right. And even though U.S. Geological Survey seismologist Dr. Lucy Jones heavily criticized the film after being invited by the studio to see it — “Bottom line: Don’t learn seismology from ‘*San Andreas*,’” she tweeted — Johnson insists that as far as he knows everything on screen passes muster.

“We had the best seismologists, top scientists and earthquake scientists from CalTech and USC pore over the script, challenge the script and then ultimately walk away from it saying, ‘This could happen. We hope it doesn’t, but it could happen,’” he insists.

And, of course, serious earthquakes did recently occur on the other side

“

You go into a project like this with everything you’ve got — your heart and your soul — and you just want to make a good movie.

Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson

of the world in Nepal. And that kind of front-and-centre current event can make turning natural disaster into big-screen entertainment a dicey prospect.

“We made the movie knowing and understanding the content of it. These things happen,” Johnson says.

“It was so unfortunate, incredibly unfortunate. Our prayers and thoughts continue to go out to everybody in Nepal and everybody who was affected by that. But, you know, the truth is you go into a project like this with everything you’ve got — your heart and your soul — and you just want to make a good movie.”



It's The Rock to the rescue in *San Andreas*, out this weekend. JASIN BOLAND

ALEXANDRA DADDARIO

‘You have to be crazy to be an actor’

While busy promoting *San Andreas*, her new Dwayne Johnson-led disaster film, actress Alexandra Daddario casually mentions she’s “a 29-year-old,” causing more than a few double-takes. Daddario plays Johnson’s college-age daughter in the film, and elsewhere, she says, she’s rarely asked to act her age.

You’re 29. That’s kind of surprising. Do people often not believe you?

Um ... yeah. I have discovered as I near my 30s that I still play young and that I still go out for younger roles, and I think that’s a good thing, I guess. But also I like being 29 because I’ve found a strength within myself that I didn’t have when I was younger.

Speaking of strong characters, you’re playing a very capable, heroic young woman here.

There’s a lot of discussion about women’s roles in Hollywood and “strong female characters,” and I think that what it was for me was a discovery that I am strong — I don’t need to pretend to be strong, I don’t need to be anything other than I am. We are, in a way, all the same. We are strong. It’s just about you don’t need to do it in a



Alexandra Daddario.
JASIN BOLAND

false way or in a way that feels contrived.

This film aside, are you still finding it hard to get scripts that don’t give female characters short shrift?

Yeah. I read a lot of scripts and see a lot of different characters, and I think that the statistics are interesting. There are still fewer leading roles for women than there are for men, but that’s changing. And I think that it’s important that we’re having the discussion, and that

we’re getting more women in the director’s chairs and as producers. I work with more and more women every film I do, and that’s very exciting.

This film calls for you to play terrified for an extended period of time. What’s the muscle for that and how exhausting is it?

It can be very exhausting, but it’s sort of therapeutic in a way. I’ve done a lot of films where you have to maintain a level of hysteria for long periods of time, and it can be very exhausting, but I think once you get yourself to that point, it’s easy to tap into. Your body sort of gets tricked into thinking that something is terribly wrong, and if you can get yourself to that point then it’s easier to cry and get hysterical on a dime.

It doesn’t sound like the healthiest thing to do to your body.

You know, you have to be crazy to be an actor, but it’s sort of fun. We always, as human beings, are trying to keep ourselves under control and be completely mature and responsible, and it’s nice to just be like, “F— it.” Like, whatever’s bothering me, I can just let go of it right now.

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Gugino talks triumph amid disaster

SAN ANDREAS

Star says people can learn a lot from new blockbuster



Richard Crouse
Metro|Life

Carla Gugino was living in New York in September 2001. Every day she would look at the Twin Towers from her window, and then, one morning they were gone. The rush of emotions she felt on 9/11 stayed with her as she filmed her new movie, the earthquake disaster flick *San Andreas*.

"I thought about it a lot in the way Dwayne Johnson's character and my character reconnect in this movie," she says.

In the film she plays Johnson's estranged wife who teams with him to rescue their daughter from a devastating earthquake that rips



Carla Gugino as Emma in the action thriller *San Andreas*. COURTESY WARNER BROS. PICTURES

California in half.

"What I found so smart and well done is that they connect not in a cliché way or in a sentimental way; they reconnect because they may not be alive the next day. In those moments, which was very much the case with 9/11

"This is a movie that does not take Mother Nature or her tics lightly."

Carla Gugino

and what happened that morning, you realize you want to go help people. You want to be with the people you love and you want to not sweat the small stuff. It contextualizes life in such a radical way."

Warner Bros. chose not to

change the release date of *San Andreas* in light of the recent deadly earthquakes in Nepal. Instead they've used the film's trailers and ads to raise awareness about relief efforts and have vowed to match donations made by their employees.

"There were always going to be public service announcements after the trailer and the film," Gugino adds. "But then they were specifically geared toward Nepal."

"This is a movie that does not take Mother Nature or her tics lightly and I think it's about the triumph of the human spirit, which is what always amazes me."

"At 9/11 and seeing this terrible situation in Nepal, the thing you are reminded of is the resilience of the human spirit."

The actress, best known for her roles in *Spy Kids* and *Sin City*, lives in New York but spent 20 years living in Los Angeles on top of the shaky *San Andreas* fault line.

"I've been in a couple of big ones in L.A. and they are intense," she says. "The first one I ran outside which is exactly what you are not supposed to do. That is a good thing about *San Andreas*, you actually learn some stuff too — the whole under a doorway, or under a desk thing. Or under Dwayne Johnson. That is one of the advantages of his size."

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Dan Abramovici and Mars Horodyski cleaned out their bank accounts to make ultra low-budget romantic comedy *Ben's At Home*. And while nobody was paid, or has made a dime since — aside from canine star Schnitzel, who got all the kibble she could handle — that hasn't stopped them from aiming higher for their next movie.

"We love the Duplass brothers and Lynn Shelton and if only we could have a little team of people here in Toronto that could help each other out and make stuff together it would be unbelievable," said Abramovici, who co-wrote and stars in *Ben's At Home*.

Ben is the first feature for Abramovici and co-writer and director Horodyski, who have made several shorts together. Their goal is to keep making movies and "figure out a way to tell these stories that are comedic, that have a lot of heart to them," Abramovici explained.

Ben was shot in August 2013 for \$20,000, half coming from Abramovici and Horodyski and half raised through crowdfunder Indiegogo. They entered it in a dozen film festi-



Romantic comedy *Ben's At Home* is the first feature from Dan Abramovici, right, who also co-wrote and stars, and Mars Horodyski (not pictured). HANDOUT

vals from Puerto Rico to Rhode Island, where the 70-minute movie won several prizes, including Best Feature at the Canadian Film Fest in March.

That caught the eye of distributor Vancouver-based Pacific Northwest Pictures, which put Ben into two Toronto theatres, taking it to Regina and Calgary ahead of its June 16 VOD release.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

WHAT'S NEXT

Abramovici and Horodyski's next project is brother-sister road trip comedy ... *You Have Feet In Your Shoes*, which Abramovici says will have a \$700,000 to \$1-million budget, although "we don't know how to raise that money."

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THE WORD FROM THE BIRD

DOCUMENTARY

Caroll Spinney talks about being Big Bird for almost half a century



Richard Crouse
MetroLife

Big Bird is, arguably, one of the best-known characters on the planet but how much do we really know about him? We know he's yellow, eight feet two inches tall, and lives in a large nest behind 123 Sesame Street — but the rest is murky. A new documentary, *I Am Big Bird*, exposes Caroll Spinney, the man who has spent 45 years beneath the Muppet's felt and feathers and knows the bird better than anyone. Spinney is Big Bird and Big Bird is Spinney.

Muppet mastermind Jim Henson created Big Bird, but Spinney says, "I was given a lot of freedom to create the kind of guy he is. He's a person like I was as a kid, except he doesn't get pushed around as much. 'I was the smallest boy in my class so there is a lot of satisfaction playing the largest character who's ever been on television. 'To be loved like a little child but be eight-feet-two, what a strange accomplishment.'"

Caroll's relationship with Big Bird lasted longer than his first marriage, which blew up because his then-wife was

"embarrassed" by his career choice, but Spinney calls his job "a dream come true. 'From the moment I first became aware of television I knew I wanted to be on TV regularly for children. So many of the things that have happened for me have been things I dreamed of doing.' As for retiring? 'I can't imagine it,' he says. 'It keeps me young.'"

Underneath Big Bird's feathers is a device called "an electric bra" strapped to Spinney's chest so he can see what's happening outside the feathers.

"We call it that just as a joke," says Spinney. "It's really a TV monitor, a tiny little television set. We have a new one now, an LED monitor and it is too big. It takes up room and it is robbing me of space for the scripts inside."

Caroll is President Obama's ninth cousin, but Big Bird isn't political in the least. "Big Bird, I'm told by the owners of him, does not have political opinions. I thought of an idea that would get around that problem if someone (ever asked about it). 'I don't know who that is,' he says in Big's voice. 'I thought we had a king.' In most fairy tales, lands are run by kings or queens."

NASA invited Big Bird to be a passenger on the doomed Space Shuttle Challenger to get kids interested in the space program. "I said, 'Yes, I'd love to go.' About a month later they found out there was no place on the craft to put Big Bird. I realized it would be dangerous, but who could picture what actually happened?"



Caroll Spinney, left, and Muppet costume designer Kermit Love take a break on the set of the Muppet Movie in 1978. CONTRIBUTED



Big Bird has worked with plenty of talent over the years, including Janelle Monae. CONTRIBUTED

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HORROR
Debug
Director: David Hewlett
Starring: Jeananne Goossen, Adam Butcher

Six young computer hackers sent to work on a derelict space freighter are forced to match wits with a vengeful artificial intelligence that would kill to be human.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
No reviews yet **+90%**



COMEDY
Hunting Elephants
Director: Reshef Levi
Starring: Gil Blank, Sasson Gabai

In this hilarious crime comedy, a gifted 12-year-old boy and three elderly men plan a bank robbery in order to seek revenge on the institution for cheating the youngster after the death of his father.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
 38% **67%**



DRAMA
Clouds of Sils Maria
Director: Olivier Assayas
Starring: Kristen Stewart, Juliette Binoche

Maria Enders (Juliette Binoche) is an actress at the peak of her career asked to perform in a revival of the play that made her famous 20 years earlier. Back then she played the role of Sigrid, an alluring young woman. Now she is asked to step into the other role.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
 89% **69%**



ACTION/COMEDY
Aloha
Director: Cameron Crowe
Starring: Bradley Cooper, Emma Stone

Bradley Cooper stars as a defense worker who teams up with a pilot (Emma Stone) to stop a satellite launch in this romantic comedy from Cameron Crowe. Rachel McAdams co-stars.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
No reviews yet **+96%**



ACTION & ADVENTURE
San Andreas
Director: Brad Peyton
Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island's Brad Peyton steps into disaster movie territory with this 3D film surrounding an earthquake that hits the West Coast. Carlton Cuse provides the script.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
 47% **+96%**



SCI-FI/FANTASY
Tomorrowland
Director: Brad Bird
Starring: George Clooney, Hugh Laurie

Bound by a shared destiny, former boy-genius Frank (Clooney), jaded by disillusionment, and Casey (Britt Robertson), a bright, optimistic teen bursting with scientific curiosity, embark on a danger-filled mission to unearth the secrets of an enigmatic place known only as Tomorrowland.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
 59% **+98%**



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The Bachelor's Chris Soules and Whitney Bischoff. GETTY IMAGES

The Bachelor couple split

REALITY TV

Chris Soules and Whitney Bischoff end engagement

Another couple from ABC's The Bachelor has broken up.

Chris Soules and Whitney Bischoff have split two months after the finale of the reality dating show where the couple got engaged.

At the time, the 33-year-old Soules, a farmer from Arlington, Iowa, was gearing up to immediately head to Los Angeles to compete on Dancing With the Stars.

He and Bischoff, 29, a Chicago fertility nurse, released a statement saying they've "amicably decided to end their relationship" and "part with nothing but respect and admiration

for one another."

In a recent interview, Bachelor host Chris Harrison acknowledged that seeking the limelight after the show might not be the best for a new relationship.

"I don't begrudge anybody for taking advantage of any opportunity. ... It's good money to be on Dancing With the Stars. But, the couples that have been successful, you know they got what they came for and now I'm out of here. ... I always tell them, 'Let the show ... let the experience enhance your life, don't let it change your life.' Those that really allow it to change your lives, it's tough."

He added: "I hope that Chris and Whitney can now disappear ... and really start building and thinking about themselves."

Us Weekly was the first to report the breakup.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORE SERIAL AND HERE COMES NOAH

Trevor Noah takes over The Daily Show in September

Comedy Central has confirmed when South African born comedian Trevor Noah will take up his seat on the channel's prime time satirical news and current affairs show. Noah will take over The Daily Show on Sept. 28. AFP

True crime podcast Serial plans two more seasons
Serial junkies, get out your

sleuthing kits again. The wildly popular podcast is coming back with two new series. Producers hope to launch Season 2 this fall and Season 3 next spring. Planning for a second season was a slam dunk after a very successful launch in which Sarah Koenig and Julie Snyder investigated the true-crime case of Adnan Syed imprisoned for life for killing an ex-girlfriend. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MISCONDUCT ALLEGATIONS

Hulu pulls 19 Kids & Counting from lineup

Hulu has pulled the reality series 19 Kids and Counting from its lineup, following reports of sexual misconduct allegations against one of the stars, Josh Duggar, stemming from when he was a juvenile.

Although the streaming-video service didn't confirm removal of the TLC series, episodes weren't found Thursday on the Hulu site, where they had been available as recently as Wednesday.

The show's banishment follows TLC yanking the series from its program schedule last week.

The 27-year-old Duggar is the oldest of Jim Bob and Michelle Duggar's 19 children. The family is featured in the show, whose 10th season concluded May 19.

TLC hasn't addressed whether its popular show will return for a new season.

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The Duggar family from 19 Kids & Counting. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Healthy eating more about 'do' than 'don't'



Telling your spouse yogurt is good for them is more effective than scaring them into eating it. AFP

RESEARCH

New study says carrots better than sticks for good habits

In the elusive struggle to encourage kids to make healthy food choices in the midst of heavy marketing for high-calorie, sugary drinks and snacks, a new research analysis says it's best to tell them what they should eat rather than what they should stay away from.

This strategy could also be applied to your spouse, say the researchers, hailing from the Cornell Food & Brand Lab in the US.

The researchers analyzed 43 published international studies about nutrition messaging, be it positive or negative.

Negative messages, they concluded, work best on ex-

43

Researchers examined more than 43 studies looking at positive and negative messaging. They concluded that negative messages tend to work better on health experts than the general population.

perts such as dieticians and doctors who, despite their expertise, could be tempted to stray from healthy eating.

Meanwhile those who have less knowledge in the area will get more out of being told what is healthy and why, say the researchers.

The findings will be presented at the Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior's Annual Conference 2015 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the U.S.

AFP

ECO-INSPIRED

Save the planet, eat ice cream

Using adjectives like "chunky," "swirly" and "euphoric," Ben & Jerry's announced their latest flavour — Save our Swirled — on Wednesday.

The flavour's name is inspired by the company's own eco-friendly efforts.

"Ben & Jerry's has committed to dramatically reducing our own carbon footprint," says CEO Jostein Solheim.

The company aims to motivate individuals towards clean energy, and the new flavour is part of the campaign kickoff.

The raspberry-flavoured



Save our Swirled ice cream. HANDOUT

treat is swirled with marshmallow and blended with cone-shaped chunks of white and dark fudge.

AFP

DISAPPEARING HOLES

Holy Swiss cheese mystery has been solved

The mystery of Swiss cheese and its disappearing holes has been solved: The milk's too clean.

A Swiss agricultural institute discovered that tiny specks of hay are responsible for the famous holes in cheeses like Emmentaler or Appenzeller. As milk

matures into cheese, these "microscopically small hay particles" help create the holes in the traditional Swiss cheese varieties.

The government-funded Agroscope institute said that the transition from age-old milking methods in barns to industrial milking systems had caused holes to decline.

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TV's lame riffs on old films

NETWORK TREND

Movie-based shows that make TV extra unoriginal this fall

Brian Gasparek
For Metro Life

When did TV get so unoriginal? Aside from a handful of cable gems, the majority of popular shows these days revolve around repetitive competitions, countless superhero shows, formulaic reality TV and a heck of a lot of pawning. And sadly, after glancing at the lineup of shows that are set to debut later this year, it looks like TV about to get even less original thanks to a new trend.

Following in the footsteps of The Odd Couple from earlier this year, four of the biggest TV shows premiering this fall are all lifting their premise directly from old movies. This trend of reusing films to create new show ideas seems to be the latest form of creative apathy that's plaguing the big three networks. And whether we like the trend or not, it's happening. Sigh.

Here's a look at the four big movie-based shows premiering this fall and why we really don't need them.



Rush Hour

CBS is cranking out a Rush Hour show based on the dreadfully unfunny buddy cop films starring Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker. Although none of the three Rush Hour films were well received by critics, they still somehow made a ton of cash.

Rush Hour's premise will just mimic the films, but the less expensive Jon Foo and Justin Hires will replace Chan and Tucker. Rush Hour's film director and movie-disaster mastermind Brett Ratner will be producing the show, which should ensure a similar quality to the films. Lucky us. We get more bad jokes with less star power. Perfect.



Minority Report

Fox is hoping it can flip 2002's Steven Spielberg/Tom Cruise big money blockbuster Minority Report in a prime-time TV hit.

The show will be based in the film's world, revolving around a detective and a "pre-cog" that solve weekly crimes together. Wait, doesn't that just sound like Bones in the future? Snooze.

With a TV-sized budget, Fox's bad sci-fi track record and the show's played-out sounding premise, there's no possible way this show an live up to the movie's hype with fans. So why bother?



Limitless

CBS is actually recycling two films. In addition to Rush Hour, the network will turn Bradley Cooper's 2011 sci-fi movie Limitless into a show. In all fairness, this one may have some potential.

Produced by Cooper, the show stars Jake McDorman as a new NZT drug addict who uses his enhanced brainpower to help the FBI crack cases. Cooper will reprise his film role as Eddie Morra in several episodes.

Jadedness aside, Limitless might be more of a film continuation on television than just a recycled idea. Maybe it's worth a shot?



Uncle Buck

This is absolutely the worst idea. ABC's Uncle Buck is a cheesy sounding family sitcom named after John Candy's 1989 classic comedy. The show has nothing to do with the film, aside from the fact it features an uncle named "Buck" (played by Mike Epps) that moves in with his brother and looks after his kids.

The worst part about the show is that it's being produced by the guys that made MadTV. Oh boy. Epps and the MadTV guys butchering a classic for no apparent reason. At least call it something else. Poor John Candy is rolling over in his grave.

ALL PHOTOS HANDOUTS

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Pet owners embrace alt treatments

HOLISTIC HEALTH

Practitioners say therapies work the same way as they do on humans

Chilko has seen better days.

A good walk for the 15-year-old black lab is now 18 to 24 metres. The grey hair on his chin is a testament to his advanced age.

Owner Gino Furano isn't willing to say goodbye to his constant companion just yet and has embraced a holistic approach to the painful ravages of his dog's old age.

Furano has been bringing Chilko to the Calgary Holistic

Veterinary Clinic for acupuncture for three years and says the hour-long sessions appear to be working.

"Most of the time he'll just fall asleep," says Furano, sitting on the floor with Chilko's head in his lap.

"When we first brought him in, we noticed a significant change in his mobility. Then there was arthritis somewhere on his right side. He's still mo-

bile. He's eating. He's happy and he's doing really, really well," Furano says.

"The acupuncture relieves some of the stress. Now I just think he has a lot of aches and pains in his joints. This is just quality of life now."

Chilko barely seems to notice when veterinarian Dr. Yanhui Qi inserted needles and hooks them up to a low-level electrical current.

"It works the same as on humans," Qi says. "We know that it's working by observing after the treatment if there is less pain and they are moving (more easily)."

The cost is \$220 for the initial consultation and treatment. Followup treatments run between \$73 and \$100.

Qi grew up in rural China where he says the use of acupuncture has been used on horses and cattle for thousands of years.

It's more rare in North America where the efficacy of animal acupuncture has been questioned. But recent articles suggest there is evidence it is useful in pain management in cats and dogs.

"There is a solid and still growing body of evidence for the use of acupuncture for the treatment of pain in veterinary medicine to the extent that it is now an accepted treatment ... for painful animals," read the joint guidelines from the American Animal Hospital Association and American Association of Feline Practitioners.

"When I started at this clinic 16 years ago, people were skeptical, but now more and more people want to try this kind of treatment for their animals," Qi says. "With acupuncture we are able to save animals

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Reiki

Channels healing energy through the hands to the animal. Cats seem to be especially receptive.

and improve the quality of their lives."

Miki Zahner brought in her big Maine coon cat named Tony after he injured a ligament in his leg in a tussle with another cat.

"He's felt a lot better. He's no longer limping," says Zahner.

"I think he's only had three treatments. He's jumping again and so he's doing just fine," she says. "He falls asleep during it."

Zahner became a believer after bringing in another cat for acupuncture several years ago.

"When (Qi) first mentioned it to me I kind of rolled my eyes at him," she says. "But the treatments were fantastic."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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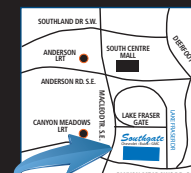
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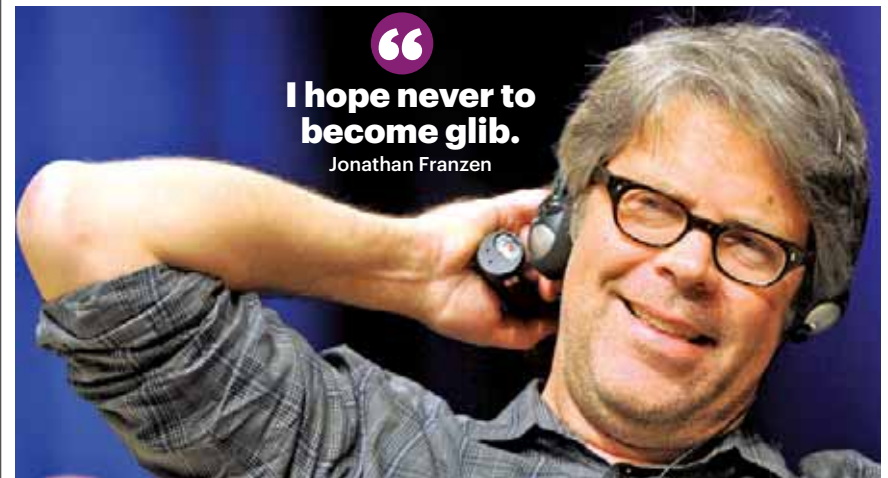
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Jonathan Franzen speaks about new novel at BookExpo



I hope never to become glib.
Jonathan Franzen

Author Jonathan Franzen attends a panel discussion during the 22nd Budapest International Book Festival in Hungary in April. ATTILA KOVACS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED

Purity is the fifth book by American author

Writing has become no easier for Jonathan Franzen, whose fifth novel comes out this fall.

And neither, apparently, have interviews.

"I hope never to become glib," the prize-winning and private author of *Freedom* and *The Corrections* said earlier this week as he spoke before hundreds at BookExpo America at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, where he made the first promotional appearance for his novel *Purity*.

Franzen appears more than capable of keeping that promise, often spending as much time critiquing the questions he was asked Wednesday as he did actually answering them. For long-time followers of the 55-year-old author, the hour-long discussion was vintage Franzen — witty and self-deprecating, digressive and self-conscious, the conversation ranging from basketball to Russian literary theory to the difficulties of talking about his work.

"Wheels are turning desperately in my head," Franzen said when asked at the start of the discussion by interviewer Laura Miller of *Salon.com* whether *Purity* was more "playful" and "adventurous" than his other books. The author, wearing jeans and a blazer and his familiar dark-rimmed glasses, explained that he had recently returned from East Africa and was struggling to figure out "cogent ways" to talk about *Purity*.

"I beg everyone's indulgence because I haven't figured it out," he said.

Not everyone stayed with him. The crowd was standing-room only at the start, but numerous seats were empty by the time the conversation was opened to questions from the audience. Those who left early missed a highlight of the event, a self-described "rising sophomore" at the University of Connecticut telling Franzen that *The Corrections* was the basis for her project on the "depressed male protagonist in post-9/11 literature."

"Say no more," answered a surprised, but amused Franzen.

Expectations are understandably high for *Purity*, a 500-plus page novel set everywhere from East Germany to South America to a community of anarchists in Northern California. *Freedom* and *The Corrections* were critically acclaimed bestsellers, both endorsed by Oprah Winfrey, that made Franzen a grateful

and reluctant success.

He has written about his desire for literary fiction to be accessible to a broad audience and also expressed skepticism whether he wants his own books to be read by a broad audience. He began a promotional video for *Freedom* by stating his "profound discomfort" with making videos "like this." He has criticized Internet culture, dismissing Twitter as "the ultimate irresponsible medium." He even questioned the title of his new book, saying he was reluctant to tell people he had written a novel called *Purity*.

"You can sometimes present yourself as somewhat misanthropic," Miller said. "Do you agree with that, a little bit?"

"No," said Franzen, smiling nervously, the audience laughing. "No. Not at all. What makes you even say that?"

The title character of *Purity* is a young woman of uncertain parenthood known to most people as "Pip," her name and background an apparent reference to Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*. The novel also features an East German refugee who runs a WikiLeaks-like news organization out of South America, and flashbacks to Germany during the Cold War. *Purity* is often bleak, its plot including murder, suicide and numerous betrayals, but also leaves open the chance for love and family reconciliation.

"I see tension between your sometimes curmudgeonlyness and your love for your characters," Miller said to Franzen.

"The thing is dead in the water if I don't find characters I can love," he responded.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





The Sunset Tower in West Hollywood was once home to many a starlet. PHOTOS BY JESSICA ALLEN; STARLET PHOTOGRAPHS: FILE PHOTOS

Getting a taste of old Hollywood

TRAVEL AND FOOD

Checking out the sights and bites in colourful L.A.

THE TV DINNER
Jessica Allen



Besides being film luminaries, what do Marilyn Monroe, Greta Garbo and Elizabeth Taylor have in common? They all once lived at the Sunset Tower in West Hollywood. So, too, did John Wayne. He even kept a cow on his terrace so he could provide guests with fresh milk.

I was craving a taste of old Hollywood — both literally and figuratively — when I recently visited Los Angeles. So I called the art deco tower, now a hotel, home for two luxurious nights. If only those walls could talk.

The walls of the Frolic Room, one decorated by the New York caricaturist Al Hirschfeld, seem to whisper of the bar's glory days from the 1930s. It eventually morphed into "Hollywood's best dive bar," according to LA Weekly, and "one of the only places (screenwriter Charles) Bukowski obsessives agree that he actually haunted."

Long-time bartender Gita

Bull, who probably served Bukowski himself, served me my \$6 drink. Rumour has it that she brings in egg salad sandwiches from home for those that might need to line their stomachs. As James Brown played, about a dozen locals drank their pints and sipped their Jack.

Just down the street on Hollywood Boulevard, in front of John Barrymore's star, is Hollywood's oldest restaurant Musso & Frank Grill, where the servers wear red jackets with black lapels and bow ties. I sat at the bar in order to watch chef Indolfo, who has been manning the charcoal grill for 31 years. What I couldn't see was a kitchen chit. When Indolfo swung by to ask how my steak was (perfect), I asked him how he kept all the orders straight. "It's all up here," he said, pointing to his head.

Who says you can't have a Reuben for breakfast? Nobody at Canter's Deli on North Fairfax. The art deco room looks cinematic; no wonder it's featured in movies and TV. Regulars know staff members by name. But you don't have to be a regular for the staff to call you "honey." I overheard my server telling a patron



a b o u t some of the notables who'd visited — Diana Ross, President Obama. Nicholas Cage apparently met his first wife here.

Right before I checked out of the Sunset Tower, I took one last peek into the Tower Bar, where Hollywood's most illustrious movers and shakers come to unwind, thanks in large part to the no photo policy. Hotel ambassador Tim Cunningham had earlier walked me through the space, which was Bugsy Siegel's old apartment, and pointed out the photographs of long-gone vaudevillians that line the walls. Most had never really made it. But in a way, Cunningham said, considering who sits in this room night after night, they finally had.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

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CRIMINAL CASES

Lilo finally boots probation to the curb

For the first time in nearly eight years, Lindsay Lohan is not on probation. Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Mark Young on Thursday ended Lohan's probation in a reckless driving case, closing the last of a series of L.A. criminal cases that have dogged the actress for years.

Young said he reviewed community service logs and determined Lohan, 28, completed her sentence. He praised Lohan's attorney, Shawn Holley, telling her she did an excellent job getting the actress to complete the hours in recent weeks.

Unlike many previous proceedings in her criminal cases, Lohan was not present for the hearing.

Resolving the reckless

driving case was not without its hiccups — Lohan missed a deadline last year to complete her community service, and a prosecutor criticized her efforts, noting she was given credit for meeting fans of a London stage play and other questionable activities. A judge earlier this year ordered Lohan to redo 125 hours of service.

Over the years, the ac-

tress was briefly jailed five times and sentenced to rehab for a variety of violations ranging from failing to perform her community service to skipping counseling sessions.

Since 2007, Lohan was convicted in three cases — a drunken driving and drug case, a theft case filed over a stolen necklace, and a reckless driving case.

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Walk Off the Earth singer Sarah Blackwood with her partner Gianni Nicassio and their son Giorgio. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Singer kicked off flight over crying baby

SARAH BLACKWOOD

Airline cites safety concerns in removal of pregnant mom

Walk Off the Earth singer Sarah Blackwood says she wants compensation and an apology after being kicked off a United Airlines flight because her young child was being fussy.

The Burlington, Ont.-based musician, who is seven months pregnant, said it happened while she and her nearly two-year-old son were on a United plane operated by regional carrier SkyWest Airlines on Wednesday.

They were on the tarmac to fly from San Francisco to Vancouver. Her son is still considered an infant by the airline's standards and therefore was able to sit in her lap free of charge.

Before leaving the gate, her son was tired and was "crying really loud and squirming," said Blackwood.

That's when a flight attendant told her: "You have to control your child."

"The only thing I can do to stop him from moving around is hold him with my arms, which was what I was doing," Blackwood said in a telephone interview on Thursday.

"I said, 'OK, yeah, absolutely.' ... I would never refuse to do anything on an airplane," she added, noting she's on tour with the band and frequently flies to perform.

"I don't want to cause a scene, ever, it just makes my life harder."

Blackwood said she was in a window seat and apologized to the man sitting beside her.

"The flight attendant came back up to me again and told me that if I couldn't control my child, they would ask me to leave the plane," she said.

"I didn't really know what she meant by 'control my child.' I mean, he's not an animal, you can't sedate children."

"I had him in my lap and he was screaming, he was loud, but I had him in my lap and I was holding on to him."

Blackwood said her son cried for about seven minutes and fell asleep as they were taxiing on the runway. But before takeoff, the plane returned to the gate.

Blackwood said when they got to the gate, an airline representative asked her to leave the flight.

"At this point I was in tears but I just said, 'OK,'" she said.

"I woke up my son up and as I was leaving there were a few passengers that stood up and said, 'This is ridiculous, I can't believe you're doing this to her.'"

"I actually had one lady on the flight gather some emails for me of the other passengers, and while she was doing that they also threatened to kick her off the plane."

SkyWest said the airline made the decision to remove Blackwood and her child from the flight "based solely on safety concerns."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Demi Lovato shares her story about being bipolar

CAMPAIGN

Be Vocal: Speak Up For Mental Illness is a new initiative

When Demi Lovato was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, she was actually relieved.

"Growing up, I felt very, very depressed," she said. "Even though I was playing concerts and living out my dream, I couldn't tell you why I was upset."

After a family intervention, she sought treatment and learned she had a mental illness.

"I remember smiling and thinking great, 'OK, so there's not anything wrong with me as a person,'" she said in a recent interview. "It's actually just a condition that I have and I can do something to fix it. I don't have to be like this forever."

Lovato is sharing her story and encouraging others to do the same through Be Vocal: Speak Up For Mental Health, an initiative launched Thursday by a pharmaceutical company, the National Alliance on Mental Illness and other mental-health advocacy groups. Its aim is to improve treatment options at all levels and erase the stigma around mental illnesses.

"It's not something that anyone should be ashamed of," Lovato said. "The more people talk about it, the more people can come out and get the help they need."

her. "The Vocal is as much about sufferers voicing their treatment needs as it is about families and communities speaking up for better resources to meet those needs," she said.

Lovato's improved mental state is reflected in her work.

"I'd say my music is a lot happier now!" she said with a laugh.

The 23-year-old entertainer said she's recording a new album, which she plans to release on Safehouse Records, the new label that she and partners Nick Jonas and her manager, Phil McIntyre, announced earlier this week.

And she'll continue to advocate for mental health, to make depression and other mental illnesses as easy to discuss as diabetes or the flu.

"I didn't understand why I was going through what I was when I was dealing with all of this, and I realized I could share my story and help others," she said. "If that's my purpose for being on Earth, than that's what I want to do."

"There's so much more to life than just singing."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



PAN AM GAMES

PAN AM GAMES

Serena sings a song for everyone



Serena Ryder has lent her voice to the Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games' official song. Together We Are One. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian artist Serena Ryder has lent her voice to the official song of the Toronto 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games.

The Games' organizing committee and official broadcaster CBC announced the release of *Together We Are One* in a news release Thursday. The song was selected from a pool of 70 submissions.

The English version of *Together We Are One* was recorded by Ryder, a multiple Juno Award-

winning singer/songwriter.

"Together We Are One unites everybody, regardless of who they're rooting for," Ryder said in a statement. "It's their song. It's everyone's song."

The song was written by Murray Daigle, Jasmine Denham and Bobby John, and produced by Daigle.

French and Spanish adaptations of *Together We Are One* were also recorded.

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Narrowing the digital divide

INTERNET

U.S. unveils plan to subsidize broadband for the poor

The top U.S. telecom regulator on Thursday unveiled plans to subsidize high-speed Internet for low-income households, saying the service was essential for people trying to better themselves.

Federal Communications chairman Tom Wheeler proposed the plan to overhaul the Lifeline program that provides low-cost telephone service to include online access as well.

"Broadband access is essential to find a job — more than 80 per cent of Fortune 500 job openings are online," Wheeler said in a blog post.

"Americans need broadband to keep a job, as companies increasingly require basic digital literacy skills.

"We rely on broadband to manage and receive health care, and to help our children do their homework."

But Wheeler said nearly 30 per cent of Americans, mostly low-income households, still lack broadband access.

"While more than 95 per cent of households with incomes over \$150,000 have broadband, only 48 per cent of those making less than \$25,000 have the service at home," he said.

"A world of broadband has and havenots is a world where none of us will have the opportunity to enjoy the full fruits of what broadband has to offer."

Wheeler said nearly half of low-in-

come Americans have had to cancel or suspend smartphone services due to finan-

cial hardship.

The initiative is likely to face obstacles, especially from some lawmakers who have complained about the "Obama-phone" program, even though it dates back to 1985 and the Reagan administration.

Earlier this year, Sen. David Vitter of Louisiana called Lifeline "one of the most corrupt federal programs in recent memory" and called for tougher efforts to curb fraud



ISTOCK

“People increasingly depend on the Internet for access to jobs, education, news, services, communications, and everything else under the sun.”

Kristine DeBry of the advocacy group Public Knowledge

and abuse.

But Kristine DeBry of the advocacy group Public Knowledge welcomed the initiative, saying that "people increasingly depend on the Internet for access to jobs, education, news, services, communications, and everything else under the sun."

She said the plan follows "a long, bipartisan tradition of ensuring that all Americans have access to basic communications services."

AFP

VIDEO GAMES

FIFA 16 adds women's teams, including Canada

EA Sports has announced that for the first time ever, the next instalment of its genre-defining soccer game series will boast 12 women's national teams.

The top 12 teams in the world based on FIFA rankings have been selected for FIFA 16 and include Canada, Australia, Brazil, England, China, France and the U.S., among others.

"Bringing some of the best women's players and teams in the world to our franchise is a massive event for EA Sports," said David Rutter, VP and GM for EA Sports FIFA.

As well as life-like movement, the teams will also get a set of special gameplay modes including an online and offline tournament setting.

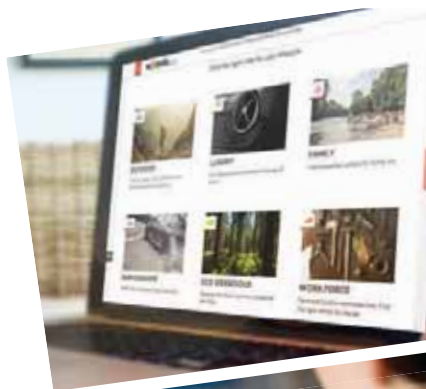
AFP

U.S. player Alex Morgan in FIFA 16. BUSINESS WIRE



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Taking a bite out of the fakes

What's in a name? From Colombian coffee to French Roquefort, food origins get new protection **AFP**

Mexican Tequila, Italian Parmigiano and French Roquefort — celebrated food products like these rooted in their geographical origin will now have more protection from international rivals trying to sell knockoff goods using similar names.

Following six years of arduous negotiations, representatives of 28 countries have approved changes that reinforce the original Lisbon Agreement on protecting goods produced and sold using appellations of origin or other geographical indication of their provenance.

According to the World Intellectual Property Organization that convened the recent conference in Geneva, geographical indications are granted to products that have “a precise geographic origin and possess certain qualities, notoriety or characteristics associated with its region of origin.”

The new rules recognize those characteristics, and prevent the marketing of Colombian coffee, Champagne or Mozzarella unless those goods issue from the locations in which they have been traditionally produced.

Globally, more than 4,000

food specialties benefit from the geographical indication (GI), which is designed to preserve the methods, skills and regional specifications of producing such goods.

Italy has the most geographical indications, with 269 protected food products and 523 wines. France counts more than 600 GIs — nearly two-thirds of them for wines like Bordeaux and others for cheeses like Brie and Camembert.

Paris hailed the new measures known as the Geneva Act as “true international recognition” and “major progress for the development of geographical indications,” the agriculture and trade ministries said in a statement.

‘An ongoing trend’

Ramon Gonzalez Figueroa, president of oriGIn, a non-governmental organization that works to protect geographical indications, said in a statement that the new measures to reinforce GI safeguards reflect “an ongoing trend in national legislations increasingly providing such level of protections.”

“By providing adequate legal means to fight against GIs misappropriations, the Geneva Act will improve legal certainty and predictability for producers and consumers of origin goods around the world,” said Figueroa, who is also the director general of the Tequila Regulatory Council.

According to oriGIn, the agreement represents major progress for producers and consumers, because it “provides sufficient judicial means to fight” manufacturers of goods expropriating origin-controlled names to market fake goods like Parmigiano and Gouda cheeses, or Bayonne ham.

France’s agriculture ministry also applauded the reinforcement of geographical indication as a positive step for transatlantic trade.

“This puts us in a strong position to sell and defend our agricultural model,” said a ministry source in Paris, which has long sought to take the touchy topic of geographical indication of traditional products off the negotiating table in trade talks — particularly with the United States.

Pursuing that objective is

not only Europe’s prerogative, French officials have argued, since Paris has already made mutual GI agreements with countries such as South Korea, Peru, Colombia and Canada, but nations like Russia and Australia are similarly interested in reaching accords.

The Geneva Act seeks to enshrine those agreements at an international level, offering what the ministry source described as protection from the encroachment of agrobusinesses with a large global reach marketing rootless products.

“The American dairy lobby would love to see the adoption of a generic term for Parmesan or mozzarella” to boost substitute industries looking to take part of the market share of traditional appellation of origin goods, the source said.



Tequila from Vinata de Los Osuna, a traditional blue agave distillery in Mazatlán, Mexico.

MELITA KUBURAS/METRO; OTHER PHOTOS: ISTOCK

Shawnee Park

14 LOTS LEFT IN SHAWNEE PARK PHASE 1



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Idaho's Weiser River Trail

UNITED STATES

Small towns, apple trees, and pastures await cyclists

No matter how speedily things are moving in the outside world, the pace is slow and steady on central Idaho's Weiser River Trail, a converted rail bed in one of this state's most beautiful areas.

The trail takes travellers through forest, orchards, ranchland, and then, in the southern portion, through spectacular sagebrush canyons with black lava cliffs.

Visitors can cycle along the trail, starting at the upper end, about 600 vertical metres above the endpoint in Weiser. (Heading in the other direction would be an uphill journey.)

The Pacific & Idaho Northern railroad company, or P&IN, blazed the trail through the landscape around the turn of the 19th century, reaching the small town of Council in 1901, according to a recent history of the area by Dale Fisk, the editor of the local Adams County Record newspaper.

The railroad was built to take travellers between the city of Boise and the small towns of Weiser, Midvale, Council and Cambridge.



Bicycle bridges populate the Weiser River Trail in central Idaho. ANNE WALLACE ALLEN VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2

Days it will take recreational cyclists to ride the entire Weiser River Trail. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It carried Gold Rush fortune-hunters up to the mountains, and brought copper ore from the mountain's mines back to the city.

Things are a little quieter on the trail these days. Union Pacific deeded the right-of-way

to the non-profit group Friends of the Weiser River Trail in August 1997, and the Friends have worked hard to maintain the rail bed for runners, walkers,

hunters and bikers.

The upper end of the trail starts off on an unmarked dirt road just off Highway 95 near the small town of New Meadows. It quickly enters the woods, passing over streams on exquisite trestle bridges that have been remade for bicyclists. The trail passes by the Tamarack Lumber Mill and its colossal log yard before heading away from the road.

Riding the Weiser River Trail is serene, but it isn't easy. The Friends group uses a mechanical roller to flatten the terrain, but they can't pave it;

not only do they not have the money, but some of their most fervent supporters ride horses on it. So for bikers, the terrain is packed dirt, soft enough to slow progress, and is occasionally studded with rocks. Cattle gates cause frequent stops.

But the beauty and surprises of travelling so far from roads more than make up for the labour of riding the bumps. Around Fruitvale, overloaded apple trees lined the trail. A local man who was collecting apples said the trees were from Fruitvale's days as a minor orchard area.

The trail also passes unexpectedly through a tidy water-bottling operation housed in stone buildings owned by Whole Foods, the grocery store chain.

The enticing thing about the trail is it travels to places few people ever get to see, through river valleys that look almost untouched by humans, through cattle pastures where the animals and green trees appear recently washed by the rain. It also runs deep into Owyhee canyonlands, where birds of prey, elk, mule deer and bear shelter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ IF YOU GO

Length:

• The trail is a 137-kilometre route that begins near New Meadows, Idaho, near Highway 95, and ends at Weiser.

Get there:

• The southern point of the trail, in Weiser, is about 120 kilometres north of Boise, Idaho's capital city.

• For information about being dropped off with bicycles at the top of the trail, contact the Colonial Motel in Weiser, at 208-549-0150 or 866-420-2143, or colonialmotel.us/.

• The Colonial Motel owners provide friendly shuttle service and great advice. Or get in touch with the volunteers who maintain the Weiser River Trail at weiserrivertrail.org/ for advice on where to stay and how to travel the trail.

Sleep:

• In Cambridge: Mundo Hot Springs and RV Park, idaho-rv.blogspot.com/, has tent sites, a hostel, and a sparkling geothermal swimming pool. Call 208-257-3849 or 208-907-2401. Dogs are welcome.

• In Council: Elkhorn Bed & Breakfast, elkhornbnb.com, is a pet-friendly (including mules and horses) environment. Call 208-741-2071.

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4

EUROPEAN CASTLES TRAVELLERS SHOULDN'T MISS



ON THE MOVE
Loren
Christie

It may be not be an actual medical diagnosis, but travellers to Europe often complain of castle fatigue. The best prescription is to avoid the crowds and hype and visit hidden gems.

2 Château d'Angers

Château d'Angers was founded in the ninth century and expanded to its current size in the 13th century. In the heart of Angers, France, this austere castle is surrounded by a massive moat with deer living in it and is home to the oldest and largest collection of medieval tapestries in the world. The 14th-century Apocalypse Tapestry is considered one of France's priceless treasures.



PETER REMUS



FLICKR: COANRI/RITA

4 Paleis Het Loo

Paleis Het Loo, in the Dutch town of Apeldoorn, is a former royal residence occupied for three centuries by the royal family of the Netherlands. The interior is full of royal artifacts, starting with the palace's first inhabitants, Willem III, stadholder-king, and Queen Mary II of England. It is fascinating as it was only recently vacated and turned into a museum. The 17th-century gardens are reminiscent of Versailles.

3 State Castle and Chateau Český Krumlov

The State Castle and Chateau Český Krumlov, three hours south of Prague in the Czech Republic, is on UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage Monuments list. Erected on a rock promontory over the Vltava river, the massive complex consists of 40 buildings and palaces situated around five castle courts and a park spanning seven hectares. Take the castle's self-guided audio tour and then head into the town below for a cup of mead at the Two Marys pub and restaurant.



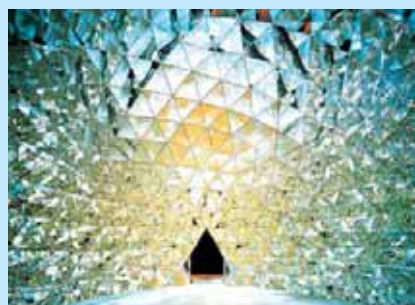
1 Eltz Castle

The 850-year-old Eltz Castle is one of only two castles in Germany that were never damaged by war. Sitting on a steep rock in a hidden wooded valley close to the Moselle river, the castle is adorned with 15th-century murals and original furniture. Take note of the carved rose above the doorway in the dining room; the rose of silence ensured anything said in the room would be kept in confidence.



FLICKR: YOURTE CONTEMPORAINE

TRAVEL NOTES CRYSTAL DELIGHTS AND ECUADOR HIGHS



The Crystal Dome sparkles in Swarovski Kristallwelten, Austria. CONTRIBUTED

Sparkling reno

The world-famous Swarovski Crystal Worlds (Swarovski Kristallwelten) in Wattens, Austria, has re-opened after a \$45-million expansion, just in time for its 20th anniversary, and the 120th anniversary of Swarovski itself. International architects and designers took part in creating a new park with new installations and buildings, redesigning many others. Visit Kristallwelten.Swarovski.com.



San Rafael Falls thunders down in Ecuador. CONTRIBUTED

Bucket List: Ecuador

This South American country is like four places in one: You get the Pacific coast, the Andes Mountains with its active volcanoes, the Amazon rainforest packed with wildlife, and the iconic Galapagos Islands, all in one package. Hike along a crater lake, take a chocolate tour or brave the steep train ride down Devil's Nose. Visit Ecuador.Travel.

DOUG WALLACE

FLORIDA

Orlando to get new park, coaster

Universal Orlando Resort is building a water park while SeaWorld Orlando plans to build a roller-coaster that will race as fast as 117 km/h when it opens next year.

Construction has begun on Volcano Bay at Universal Orlando Resort. The new park is expected to open in 2017.

It will join Universal Studios Florida and Universal's Islands of Adventure at the Orlando theme park.

Universal said the water park will be an immersive experience themed on "picture-postcard tropical islands."

It will be located within Universal Orlando Resort, just

south of the Cabana Bay Beach Resort.

At SeaWorld, the new ride will be called Mako, officials said, and it will be the tallest and fastest coaster in Orlando.

The coaster will be 60 metres tall, and will be in a section of the park themed for sharks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FIFA VOTE

Canada Soccer will vote against Blatter

Canada will not vote for beleaguered incumbent Sepp Blatter in Friday's presidential vote at the FIFA Congress.

Victor Montagliani, president of the Canadian Soccer Association, says Canada will cast its ballot for the only other candidate — Prince Ali bin al-Hussein of Jordan.

Montagliani says Canada cannot support the current political leadership of FIFA.

"The organization needs a definite change, a refresh," Montagliani told The Canadian Press from Zurich. "And I think we need to govern the game in a better way."

"And this is also a comment to the FIFA Executive Committee. It's not just about one person. The game deserves better. Period."

Montagliani said the decision not to support Blatter was finalized at a Canadian Soccer Association board meeting Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Victor Montagliani
GETTY IMAGES

'What everyone plays for'

NHL PLAYOFFS

Ducks-Hawks to settle score on Game 7 weekend

Someday the Anaheim Ducks and the Chicago Blackhawks will relish the stories they'll be able to tell about playing in a post-season series as good as these Western Conference finals.

Not just now, though. They've still got to determine whether this tale has a happy ending or a brutal punchline.

Two weeks of extraordinarily high-level hockey conclude Saturday night at Honda Center when the Ducks and the Blackhawks play Game 7 for the Campbell Bowl and a trip to the Stanley Cup final. They've traded victories for six tense games across the past two weeks, playing six overtime periods and four one-goal games.

Both teams used Thursday for travel and mental preparation for the big finish after Chicago staved off elimination with a 5-2 victory in Game 6.

The teams also did a bit of reflection on what's shaping up as a conference final as memorable as Chicago's seven-game epic with the Los Angeles Kings last spring.

"It's for sure the most exciting series I've ever been a part of personally," said Ducks defenceman Francois Beauchemin, a Stanley Cup champion with 96 games of NHL playoff experience.

The games have mostly been



The Ducks and Blackhawks will meet one last time on Saturday night in Anaheim to decide their epic Western Conference final. HARRY HOW/GETTY IMAGES

close, but they've also been extremely well-played. Anaheim's deep, balanced lineup has wrestled Chicago's star-powered roster to a virtual stalemate through six games, with the Blackhawks winning two of the three overtime contests to avoid large series deficits.

"We play for these big games," said Chicago forward Marcus Kruger, whose goal ended Game 2 in triple overtime. "You never get tired of hockey. That's what everyone plays for."

It's been a spellbinding spec-

tacle for fans and players alike, particularly in those overtime thrillers — even if the coaches aren't having quite the same experience.

"I can't feel it, quite frankly," Anaheim coach Bruce Boudreau said. "I've asked people, 'Is this a good series? Is it entertaining?' You're caught up in the moment of winning and losing. People say it's unbelievable, but we look at it as a little different right now. It might be something you appreciate one way or another in six months or in

the future."

The Ducks might feel a bit more pressure than the Blackhawks on home ice, and not just because they controlled long stretches of the series and got painfully close to finishing it in those overtime games.

They also have a daunting bit of recent history to overcome: The Ducks have blown a 3-2 series lead and lost a Game 7 at home in each of the past two post-seasons, and they're one loss from doing it again.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN MANHATTAN



The legend of Madison Square Garden doesn't intimidate the Tampa Bay Lightning. Neither does the Rangers' recent streak of Game 7 wins there.

"It's still the same game, still the same measurements of any other rink," defenceman Victor Hedman said.

The Rangers have played a Game 7 four times at MSG dating back to 2012, and won 2-1 each time.

"We haven't been a part of that history, so it doesn't affect us," Lightning head

coach Jon Cooper said Wednesday. "I guess you look back and it's an impressive feat to see what they've done. But they haven't done it against our group and our team, and we've got a pretty young, confident group."

Tampa Bay went 3-1 at Madison Square Garden this season and has two victories in three tries so far in the Eastern Conference final. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jon Cooper
GETTY IMAGES

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CFL Stampeders' title defence won't be easy

"I think something we have (is) a great understanding of the difficulty of the task," Hufnagel, Calgary's head coach and GM, told reporters recently. "Everyone's goal is to win the Grey Cup, our goal is to repeat."

“Right now, on paper, I’m comfortable with the depth and competition.”

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Bulls fired Thibodeau on Thursday, parting ways with coach of the year in 2011. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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 <p>2010 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE STK# 104214 3.3L V6, AUTOMATIC, A/C, CRUISE CONTROL, TILT WHEEL, POWER WINDOWS, LOCKS & MIRRORS, STO-N-GO \$116/BW or \$10,888</p>	 <p>2010 DODGE VIPER SRT10 COUPE STK# 102114 8.4L V10 600-HP, 540 LBS TORQUE, MANUAL TRANSMISSION FINANCE @ 9.9% FOR 72 MONTHS \$525/BW or \$71,888</p>	 <p>OWN THE ROAD! 2013 DODGE CHARGER SXT STK# 10111 2.4L V6, AUTOMATIC, SUNROOF, 8" TOUCH SCREEN AND ALLOY WHEELS \$124/BW or \$19,888</p>	 <p>2014 RAM 1500 SPORT CREW CAB 4X4 STK# 10211 5.7L HEMI V8, 6 SPD AUTO, BACK-UP CAM, SPORT PERFORMANCE HOOD, REMOTE START, HEATED SEATS & WHEEL \$209/BW or \$33,888</p>	

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RECIPE Beef Hoisin Mini Meatballs**EAT LIGHT AT HOME****Rose Reisman**rosereisman.com

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**Ready in**

Prep time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 13 minutes

Ingredients

- Meatballs
- 8 oz extra-lean ground beef
 - 3 Tbsp dry bread crumbs
 - 2 Tbsp hoisin sauce
 - 1 tsp crushed garlic
 - 1 egg
 - 2 Tbsp minced green onion
- Sauce
- 1/3 cup hoisin sauce
 - 1/3 cup red currant jelly
 - 1 tsp crushed garlic
 - 1/2 tsp minced fresh ginger
 - 2 Tbsp water
- Garnish
- 2 Tbsp chopped green onion
 - 2 Tbsp chopped fresh cilantro

Directions

1. For the meatballs, combine the beef, bread crumbs, hoisin sauce, garlic, egg and onion. Form into 20 to 24 meatballs, about one inch in diameter.
2. Spray a large non-stick skillet with cooking oil and add the meatballs. Cook over medium-high heat for three minutes, turning until browned on all sides.
3. For the sauce, combine the hoisin sauce, jelly, garlic, ginger and water in a small bowl. Add to the meatballs and stir well. Cover and simmer on low heat for 10 minutes.
4. Serve garnished.

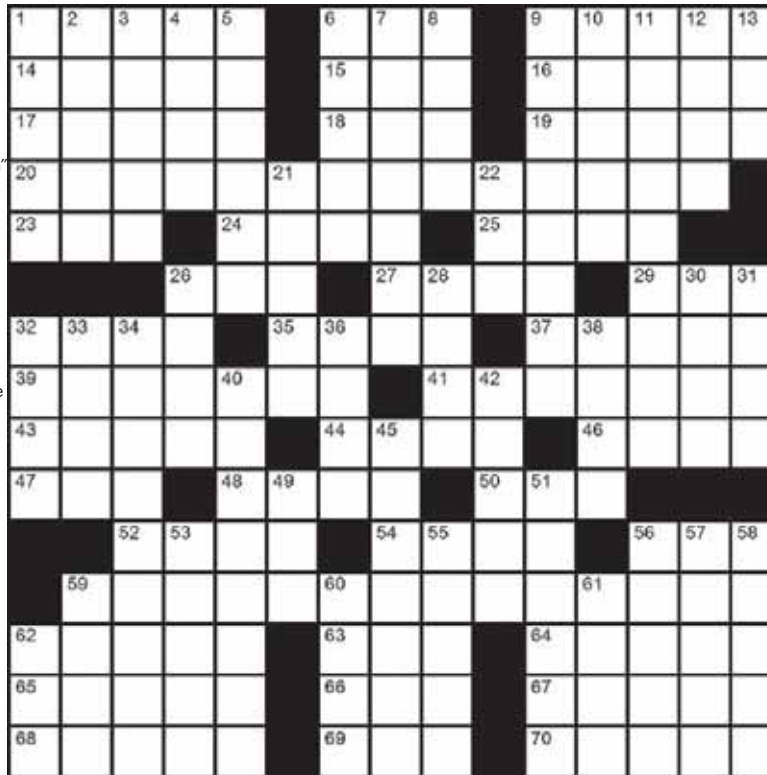
Nutrition per serving (recipe serves 6)

- Calories 150
- Protein 8.1 g
- Total fat 4.2 g

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN**ACROSS**

1. Burdens
6. "Oy!"
9. Cavalry weapon
14. Go faster: 2 wds.
15. Montreal airport code
16. "As Sure as the Sun" singer Ms. Holcomb
17. Spatial
18. ___ Cool (Green Day drummer)
19. A Lesson from ___ (Athol Fugard play)
20. 1984 Culture Club chart-topper: 2 wds.
23. 'Insist' suffix
24. "___ So Cold" by The Rolling Stones
25. Word's history [abbr.]
26. Vitality
27. "Thanks, ___ you one."
29. Some univ. degrees
32. Simon Cowell's entertainment company
35. ___ amazing job (Perform well)
37. Prefix to 'saurus' (Plated-back dino)
39. Canadian jewelry store founded in 1919
41. Alberta hamlet bringing to mind Toronto's province when written out
43. "It's ___ Paper Moon"
44. Money ___ object
46. "___ Rhythm"
47. Blood-sucker, when doubled
48. Decorative table-



- top piece
50. Actor Mr. Knight, et al.
52. "The Beverly Hillbillies" star, Max ___ Jr.
54. Entr'___ (Theatre break)
56. Collagen target
59. Getting ready, having tea and toast, catching the

- bus.... 2 wds.
62. Dieter's lost amount
63. Music Dr.
64. Cake creator
65. High nest, variably
66. Some batteries
67. Overwork
68. Rattan furniture maker

69. Driving distances [abbr.]
70. Baseball inning

DOWN

1. "My Side" Canadian rapper
2. Aired again
3. Fend off
4. Island of the Marianas

5. 1984 Tom Hanks/Daryl Hannah movie
6. Village in northwestern Alberta
7. Combo continent
8. Original matter, in Cosmology
9. Canadian dairy products brand
10. Between-buildings-spot

11. Business channel coming to Canada
12. Zippo ...mais en francais
13. poet mr. cummings'
21. Scold
22. "That's gross!"
26. Use the Xerox
28. ___ empty stomach: 2 wds.
30. Currency exchange fee
31. Chimneysweep's swept stuff
32. Fleck
33. Cravings
34. Winnie-the-Pooh: Lieutenant Harry ___ V.S. (Canadian veterinarian who gave the bear 'Winnipeg' to the London Zoo in WWI)
36. Medical condition suffix
38. Mai ___ (Cocktails)
40. Air freshener scent
42. Fingers-crossed ticket
45. Canadian distiller, Joseph E. ___ (b.1841 - d.1919)
49. Tycoon Mr. 'O'
51. Sandwich sort
53. Mr. Schwarzenegger, to fans
55. Salad green
56. Equate
57. Torpid
58. City in Australia
59. Canadian stage actress Ms. O'Connell
60. Fargo, ___
61. Tony Danza sitcom
62. Bench press muscle, briefly

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Although you always look so self-assured, you have doubts just like everyone else and some of them could get serious today. Your best course of action is to carry on as if you don't have a care in the world.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Focus on what comes easy and resist calls to get involved in things you know little about. You are at your best when in control, while others may say that is boring you really don't mind. Boring pays the bills.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will get some good news today. Actually, the news itself may be nothing special but it will confirm that your recent worries were groundless — as, deep down, you always knew.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Reality is overrated at times and the planets suggest your fantasies will be a lot of fun over the next few days. Try to remember that not everyone shares your tastes.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Don't complain too loudly if a friend plays a trick on you today — they are only getting back at you for the many tricks you have played on them. It's all in good fun, so don't be afraid to laugh at yourself.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
No matter how clever you think you are if you try to fool someone in a position of power today they will find out and you will be the one who suffers. Neptune's influence on your ruler Mercury is highly deceptive.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Some people you get along with naturally, while others you cannot bring yourself to like no matter what. One of the latter variety will try to earn your friendship today. You're not having it.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You can, if you make the effort, accomplish a lot today but the planets indicate you will prefer to take it easy and let things drift. There's no point pushing yourself if you don't feel like it.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may find it hard to put your feelings into words today — but your body language will say it all. Loved ones can sense you need some TLC and will go out of their way to give it.

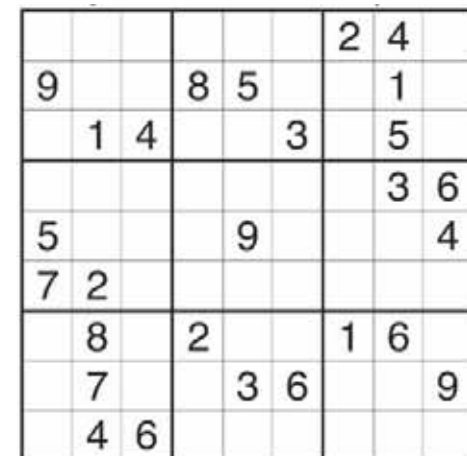
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Certain habits are hard to break but if you tackle them one at a time there is no reason you shouldn't be successful. When getting rid of a bad habit it helps if you have a good one to take its place.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Opinions won't be in short supply today but the only advice you need is what your conscience tells you. Ignore what others say and do what you think is right.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Anxiety you should have conquered long ago will make its presence felt today — this time you must deal with it. Face it head-on rather than trying to avoid it.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



Difficulty Level ★★

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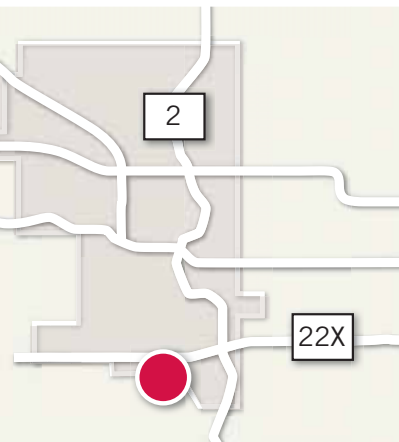
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